

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



Thursday, April 18, 2013

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Welshpool

Forty firefighters tackle huge blaze at timber yard

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Awards

Eight-page special on 2013 Chronicle Business Awards

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Proposals to change set-up at school site

MAJOR changes are in the pipeline at Oswestry School but will not go ahead if endorsed by parents.

The school is considering moving its youngest children back to the school, leaving Bellan House as a potential sixth form.

But the head of the independent school said the changes would only go ahead if parents agreed.

At the moment the primary school pupils are educated in the former grand town house in Church Street in the middle of Oswestry, about half a mile from the main school complex.

"These ideas are due to go to a governors' meeting for consideration," said headteacher Douglas Robb.

"However, I must stress that the changes would only take place with the blessing of the parents."

"Numbers at Bellan are growing and because of this the building is beginning to show its limitations. My idea is to see the preparatory children back at Quarry House where they were originally."

Mr Robb said one idea was to use Bellan House as a sixth form centre.

"There is no question of closing the building, I want to make that clear. Oswestry School has been at Bellan House for 35 years this year and we will be celebrating that anniversary," he added.

VW fans will flock to show

ENTHUSIASTS from all over the country will be descending on Oswestry this weekend for the annual Bus Types VW Show at the Park Hall Showground.

The Saturday and Sunday event will bring together some of the UK's best VW buses with an array of split screens, bay windows, T25s, T4s and T5s.

The 2012 event was the busiest in history with thousands of visitors passing through the gates, plus over 180 trade stands selling new parts, spare parts and memorabilia.

MEASLES OUTBREAK HITS HIGH SCHOOL

A SCHOOL near Oswestry has been hit by a measles outbreak, it has been revealed.

Llanfyllin High School today confirmed health teams had visited to offer vaccinations to students and advice to parents after a number of cases were reported. They are due to visit again next week.

The news comes as health bosses revealed that one in four teenagers in Mid Wales are not fully protected against measles.

Health bosses in the region today urged parents to make sure their children were vaccinated.

An epidemic in south Wales has seen more than 700 people report they have measles.

Powys Teaching Local Health Board said 41 cases of measles had been notified during March, mainly in the north of the county. Twenty cases had been notified in the past week.

A spokesman said: "Most of these have been in children of school age, where the disease can spread easily, but people of all ages can be affected."

"Measles is a serious disease that can lead to long term health issues such as eye disorders, deafness, brain damage and even death."

"It is very important that everyone is vaccinated against this disease."

"One dose of the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) jab will protect 90 per cent of children and the recommended two doses of MMR jab will provide 99 per cent protection against measles. The MMR jab is safe and offers the only protection against measles."

In Powys, one in four teenagers have not had two MMR jabs and are not fully protected against measles.

A Llanfyllin High School spokeswoman said: "We had six or seven cases before Easter and that triggered a

by Graham Breeze

visit by the School Health Service to come to offer vaccinations and give advice to parents.

"The service came on the last day of term before the Easter holidays and gave vaccinations to those pupils whose parents had given consent."

"At the moment we have four or five children off with measles and the School Health Service is due to come back to offer more vaccinations next Tuesday."

About 20 secondary school children in the Oswestry area have suspected measles, the Director of Public Health for Shropshire confirmed.

But Professor Rod Thompson said that the county had a far higher than the national average per cent of children who were immunised against measles and said that with sensible infection control measures, there should not be a repeat of the number of cases that have swept Wales.

He said the children who had the symptoms were at schools in Wales but either lived in Shropshire or were registered with GPs in the Oswestry area.

Glyn Davies, Conservative MP, said: "It is vitally important that people, especially children, who have not received the MMR vaccination do so in order to combat the outbreak as quickly and as effectively as possible."

Jane lands a really tasty job



Hospital worker Jane Ballinger is enjoying the sweet taste of victory after beating more than 77,000 chocolate lovers from around the country to win a new role as the 'Honorary Cadbury Taster'.

JANE Ballinger is enjoying the sweet taste of victory after beating over 77,000 chocolate lovers from around the country to win a new role as the 'Honorary Cadbury Taster'.

Her benefits package will include designing a handful of unique Cadbury Dairy Milk bars as well as a year's supply of chocolate. And her job - to taste all the new Cadbury chocolate products before they hit the shelves.

Jane, 45, who works as a healthcare records supervisor at Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Oswestry, won the role by coming up with a new word to describe the company's chocolate.

Cadbury challenged the nation to invent a new word to define the taste of Dairy Milk, a countrywide search kick-started by Claudia Winkleman and Brian Blessed.

Her winning word, 'Aboverlylicious', was chosen for its creativity and originality, landing her the tastiest role in the country.

Dream

She said: "I grew up on the Wirral and we would pass the Cadbury factory there and smell the chocolate. Now living in the Cefn Valley I still have that lovely smell from the factory in Chirk. This is my childhood dream coming true."

She added: "Part of the prize is a year's supply of chocolate. When I told the company that I would be donating some of the chocolate to raise funds for the Bone Cancer Appeal at the Orthopaedic, staff at Cadbury instead donated an enormous hamper of chocolate towards the fundraising."

"I have always been interested in the history of Cadbury as a philanthropic Quaker company. Today it still has a very ethical spirit."

Jane was treated to a tour of the factory in Bourneville, Birmingham, on Wednesday.

"I was taken behind the scenes and shown areas where members of the public are not allowed. I honestly felt like Charlie in Willy Wonka."

Hayley Sosnovik, for the chocolate company, said: "Jane has the nation's favourite chocolate role. She has grown up loving the aboverlylicious taste of Cadbury Dairy Milk and we couldn't have wished for a better person to join our team."

Car parks see drop in number of tickets

MOTORISTS using car parks in Oswestry town centre have dropped by six per cent over the past year with a bad winter and some stores closing blamed for the fall in numbers.

Almost 50,000 fewer tickets were issued in car parks in the town during 2012/13, new figures have revealed.

Oswestry Town Council, which runs the Central, Smithfield and Horsemarket car parks, says it is working hard to encourage more people to visit the centre. Initiatives include an animal sculpture trail being created to promote events at the outdoor and indoor markets.

Roger Dyke, the council's finance officer, said there were 775,949 tickets issued for the car parks, a drop of 49,138 from the previous year - a six per cent fall.

He said that there had been a five per cent decrease in those using the car parks for up to an hour and a four per cent decrease in people using the car parks for between one and two hours.

The number staying for between two to four hours had fallen by 13 per cent and four to six hours by 30 per cent.

Councillor Gareth Jones said the recent bad weather had seen a drop in those shopping in Oswestry but he added there had been a lot of good comments about the Good Friday market and the continental market.

Five facing affray case

FIVE men have been charged with affray following an incident outside a pub on the Powys/Shropshire border.

The five, three of who have also been charged with assault, were involved in an incident outside The Dolphin Public House in Ashfield Terrace, Llanymynech, on November 16 last year.

All five will appear at Welshpool Magistrates Court on May 7.

Dyfed-Powys Police said that a number of people were assaulted at about 10.15pm.

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Villagers to have a say on £1m of lotto funds

by Sue Austin

RESIDENTS from three villages are to get their say on spending £1million of Lottery money next week.

The Big Local public meeting will be held on April 24 at 7.30pm in the St Martins Methodist Chapel meeting room on the Ellesmere Road, St Martins.

Organisers say it is important that villagers from Weston Rhyn and Gobowen also go along to the meeting.

The area was awarded the cash two years ago and since then there have been a series on consultations on what is needed in the area. But more people are needed to join the formal partnership that will work towards putting the £1 million to use.

Chairman of the delivery group Nick Heard said: "We took the first steps towards establishing the formal partnership at our March meeting, and already have a number of firm expressions of interest from people in our communities."

"The only requirements from the Big Lottery are that there must be a minimum of eight members on the partnership, and at least 51 per cent of them must live or work in our Big Local programme area.

"We expect eventually to have quite a lot more members than this."

He added: "We also want to use this meeting to start people thinking about the possibilities of 'social investment' - where we'd work with a partner organisation with financial expertise to fill the gap where commercial lenders make it difficult or expensive for individuals, small businesses or community organisations to get small loans."

The agenda is available from Community Online and from the Three Parishes Big Local co-ordinator David Boyce on 07749 786544 or email d.boyce@qubeca.org.uk. The Museum, Gift shop and Café will also be open. For details see www.cambrainrailways.com

Canal litter pick

THE Montgomery Canal annual litter pick takes place on Saturday with volunteers asked to meet at Welshpool town wharf at 10.30am. Equipment and refreshments will be provided.

Confidence-boosting session



A workshop was held at Oswestry Library. From left, Lydia Smith, Rory Smith, Heather Noble, and Maddie Porritt. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

YOUNGSTERS have been learning how to boost their self-confidence and speaking skills in Oswestry library.

A speaking skills workshop was put on for children aged eight to 14 and was created to be a fun and interactive way for them to learn how to speak without feeling overwhelmed by nerves and sweaty palms and help them to develop a presentation style.

During the free session they were asked to recite some modern fiction and were also given the opportunity to compose a 'mini speech' and deliver it to the group.

The workshop was run by Oswestry library and businesswoman Heather Noble, of Salt Solutions, who coaches and teaches public speaking presentation skills.

Librarian Heather Rodenhurst said the workshop was fully booked with 12 young youngsters taking part.

She said: "It is quite daunting to stand in front of a group. They all managed to put a basic speech together by the end of the workshop. They all found it worth attending. It is something we hope to do as a regular event."

Cinema's ex-owner says plans too costly

THE past owner of a former Oswestry cinema claims the cost of restoring it into an arts venue would be prohibitive.

Proposals to make the old Regal Cinema in Oswestry a centre for live music, a cinema and other art events have been mooted by a group of local residents.

But Trevor Harris, who ran the Regal until the 1990s, said too many adaptations were made when it was turned into a shop.

He wants to see interest turn to former railway engineering buildings in Gobowen Road.

The cinema lost out to the multiplexes that sprang up in the 1980s and, despite converting it into a three screen cinema and then a live music venue, Mr Harris was forced to sell in the building in 1996.

It then became a clothing store until last year and, when that closed, it became a YMCA charity store.

Mr Harris said he had taken an interest in talks about the future of the building.

"I have 50 years experience in the cinema world and would be more than happy to meet up with those behind the project," he said.

The old Regal cinema, in Leg Street, is on the market with Celf Rowlands & Co with an asking price of £475,000.

Floral fun at visitor centre

THERE will be an evening of floral entertainment at the Oswestry Visitor and Exhibition Centre next Wednesday for a fun evening of seasonal flower arranging.

Demonstrator will be Carole Downward, of Oak Gate Nursery at Ellerdine.

The evening begins at 7pm. For more information please call (01691) 662753.

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NEWS**Hundreds fined in seatbelts campaign**

ALMOST 1,000 people have been fined after being caught not wearing a seatbelt during a month-long campaign in Mid Wales.

Dyfed-Powys Police said 959 people were caught risking their lives during the All Wales Seatbelt Campaign in the force area. A further 800 were fined in other parts of Wales.

Carl Langley, Dyfed-Powys Police assistant chief constable, said he was let down that so many were still not wearing seatbelts.

He said: "It's disappointing that wearing a seatbelt, which is such a fundamental part of road safety, still isn't second nature to some and they continue to put lives at risk. The message for drivers and passengers is clear: the next time you even think about travelling in a car without wearing a seatbelt, take a second to consider whether it's really worth the risk – and belt up."

A two-week blitz across Wales has identified 1,775 people breaking seatbelt laws. In the Dyfed-Powys force area, there were 959 offences, while in North Wales a total of 280 offenders were caught.

In South Wales, 405 people were prosecuted, while in Gwent, there were 131 offences – with 46 of the offences across Wales relating to a child not wearing a seatbelt.

Festival to pull in the crowds

SHOPPERS and traders will be flocking to Moreton Park Garden Centre tomorrow, Friday, for the monthly food festival.

The event will be attended by local food producers, with a tempting array of treats between 10am and 3pm. The event takes place on the third Friday of each month.

Lottery cash will kickstart £800,000 scout hut work

by Andrew Morris

WORK on a new £800,000 scout hut will begin this summer after the group behind the project received half a million pounds of funding.

The 1st Clives Own Scout Group, based in Welshpool, have received £499,358 lottery funding to go along with £300,000 from the Welsh Assembly for the new hut and it is hoped it will be up and running by May next year.

Farrell McManus, from the group, said he was delighted with the funding and said the new centre would be used by the whole community.

He said: "This is amazing news. We still have some final funds to raise but this is wonderful news. We will put the job out to tender in about a month's time with a view to breaking ground in July."

"We are told it will then take around 10 months to complete so we are looking at around May 2014 for it to be ready for use."

"There has been a tremendous amount of hard work from a dedicated group so I'd like to thank everyone for their efforts which have proved worthwhile. It has been a long, hard project and we hope the business community will get behind it."

Impact

"We want this new facility to be a model of how to build a modern community centre. It will be flexible and adaptable for a range of uses. It needs to be sustainable with low overheads to attract a wide range of community groups for educational, community support and social activities."

The centre will adopt the latest environmental and energy saving techniques and has the goal of attracting 1,000 new people through its doors in its first three years of operation.

Facilities will include a main hall which can be divided in half, office space as well as a training standard kitchen. It will be constructed on the site of the current scout hut which has fallen into disrepair.

Mr McManus added: "The positive impact is should have on the town is mind boggling."

Gareth Newtown, committee member for the Big Lottery Fund in Wales, which approved the near £500,000 funding, added: "The money will be spent on demolishing the existing dilapidated scout hut and building a brand new community facility for Welshpool and the surrounding area.

The aim is to extend the use of the building to a wide range of community groups for educational, community support and social activities.

"A range of training activities will be developed for young people not in education, training or employment and for those who are long term unemployed. It will also provide an information hub and a meeting venue for support organisations."

Hospital shows off its history

MORE than 160 people flocked to a history event showing how equipment used in hospitals has changed over the past 100 years.

The visitors attended Oswestry's Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital for the "Fractured Bones" exhibition which gave both members of staff and the public the chance to learn more about the hospital's heritage and to see how medical equipment has changed.

The display was held in aid of the Oswestry Bone Cancer Centre Appeal and showcased a large number of items including items donated by former patients, such as leg braces, callipers and splints.

The exhibition also gave visitors the chance to learn more about the hospital's founders, Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt.

Collections manager Dave Adams said: "I was very proud to showcase the 113-year history of the hospital and demonstrate how it has been influential in the world of orthopaedics." Appeal director Gwilym Owen said: "We are most grateful to everyone who came to the event and helped to support the hospital and the appeal."

The aim is to extend the use of the building to a wide range of community groups for educational, community support and social activities.

"A range of training activities will be developed for young people not in education, training or employment and for those who are long term unemployed. It will also provide an information hub and a meeting venue for support organisations."



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Crews fight timber yard fire



Forty firefighters tackled this blaze at the Broadoak Timber Yard near Welshpool.



Emergency services at the scene of the blaze.

FOURTY firefighters tackled a huge blaze at a timber yard just outside Gullsfield, near Welshpool, on Tuesday night.

Seven fire crews from the Mid and West Wales service spent several hours at the Broadoak Timber Yard after the blaze broke out.

A fire service spokesman said 90 per cent of a 65ft by 131ft building was involved in the fire. Appliances from Welshpool, Llanfyllin, Montgomery and Newtown attended the blaze at around 6.10pm.

Four hose reel jets and four breathing apparatus were used as firefighters tackled the flames.

A neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: "We have been told that a shed filled with timber has burnt down."

"It all happened around 6pm. There was a lot of shouting and a hell of a lot of black smoke and then all of a sudden we could hear the crackling of wood."

Fire crews were still at the scene yesterday completing a damping down operation.

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NEWS**in brief****Bank refuses to allow BT cabinet**

A BANK in Oswestry has refused to allow BT to site one of its superfast broadband cabinets outside its premises.

Nat West says that it would only allow the telephone company to place the large green box on Church Street on condition that it removed the cabinet if the bank needed to carry out repair work or wanted to install an ATM cash point.

But BT says that this would lead to a £50,000 bill, which it is not prepared to meet.

Now it looks like the cabinet will have to be placed at the entrance to Festival Square, which has been opposed by Oswestry Town Council as it is in the heart of the conservation area.

This week Oswestry town councillors agreed to make a last ditch attempt to persuade the bank to change its mind, by writing to its head office.

Mayor, Councillor Martin Bennett, said that if the cabinet had to go at Festival Square it must be painted to blend in.

Park curator to speak at centre

GARETH Williams, curator to the Weston Park Foundation, will be the guest speaker at Oswestry Civic Society's meeting on April 29 at St Oswald's Parish Centre.

He will talk on country houses in Shropshire with a 7.30pm start.

Tickets are £4 on the door, which is refundable on joining the society.

Members will travel to Weston Park for their May meeting.

New fayre date

GOBOWEN'S Easter Fayre, which was cancelled because of snow, is now being held as a Spring Fayre on Saturday at Preshenlle United Reformed Church, starting at 11am.

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NEWS

Pubs backing new scheme

A NEW pubwatch scheme has been set up on the Shropshire border to help combat anti-social behaviour.

Dyfed-Powys Police has helped to set up a Behave or Be Banned scheme in Llanfyllin, near Oswestry.

It has started in the town to allow licensees to call time on any alcohol related crime and disorder and anti-social nuisance.

The committee-led scheme allows on and off licensed premises to work with partners such as the police, to ensure that troublemakers are not allowed into licensed premises or to purchase alcohol.

People who are caught causing trouble in one establishment, or within the town centre, may face being banned from all premises on the Llanfyllin scheme for a period at the discretion of the committee.

All those who have signed up to the scheme will display a BoBB (behave or be banned) poster on their premises.

Nicola Davies, police licensing officer, said this will mark the 14th Pubwatch scheme to operate within Powys. All schemes, she said, act as an excellent deterrent to alcohol related crime and disorder in the county.

Steve Wilkinson, the landlord from The Old New Inn in the High Street, said: "We liked the scheme as it seemed like a good idea. We thought we would give it a try."

He said his pub didn't get trouble but joining the scheme would support others that might.

"Then at least the places that do have problems will they know we are all as one," he added.

Councillor Darren Mayor, the mayor of Llanfyllin, said he thought a pubwatch scheme was a good idea for the town.

"Anything that would curb anti-social behaviour I would welcome," he said. "It is only a small minority who could spoil the whole atmosphere."

For further information about the initiative call Dyfed-Powys Police on 101, or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Firm has date at the Palace

A COMPANY is creating a right royal entrance for a festival at Buckingham Palace later this year.

The British Ironworks centre in Oswestry has been asked to supply four of its garden pavilion structures which will be used to create stunning entrances for visitors to the Coronation Festival.

Company owner Clive Knowles said he was extremely proud that British Ironworks had been selected to take part in the prestigious and historic occasion, which will take place between July 11 and 14.

Mr Knowles said: "We all feel remarkably honoured to be there and to be surrounded by over 200 of Her Majesty's appointed warrant holder companies, all exhibiting only the finest products made in the UK. It is set to be an amazing show."

"First impressions are everything and our nostalgic and extremely beautiful 'Bandstand' and 'Carousel Pavilion' are perfect for the entrances to the show."

Willow-weaving workshop



A WILLOW-weaving workshop was held at the Willow Gallery, in Oswestry, on Saturday. Tutor Helen Stanley, left, shows Sue Griffiths how to make baskets. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

Advertisement feature

CAN A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BE A LIMITED COMPANY TO REDUCE PERSONAL LIABILITY?

Q: I am the clerk of a local community association. Our members are becoming concerned about their potential personal liability and have heard that it is possible to incorporate to become a limited company. Is this correct?

A: It is correct that you are able to incorporate and become a charitable company limited by guarantee, ensuring that your members have limited personal liability. However, limited companies were never designed for charities and many are discouraged by the strict dual regulation (by Companies House and the Charity Commission), the need to prepare and file two sets of accounts and the complex rules governing the rights and relationship between a company and its members. From 10th December 2012, it became possible for charitable organisations to adopt a new structure as a "Charitable Incorporated Organisation" (a CIO). This is a structure designed specifically for charities and offers the benefit of limited liability which will make it easier to recruit and retain trustees, whilst avoiding dual regulation as CIOs are regulated solely by the Charity Commission. CIOs also have simplified reporting and filing obligations and are allowed greater flexibility to establish their own governance procedures.

As this new structure is expected to be extremely popular for both new and existing charities seeking the benefits of incorporation, there is a phased implementation plan in place. Organisations newly registering as charities with anticipated annual incomes of £5000 or more can apply to register as CIOs immediately. Those with incomes of less than £5000 can apply from January 2014. If your organisation is already registered as a charity and has an income over £5000 you can apply from October 2013, although you may wish to consider taking legal advice in advance so that the required documentation can be prepared in good time.

Further information relating to this question is available from Emma Jacobs, a Solicitor with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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NEWS

01691 668094

New name will put town back on the football map

OSWESTRY could soon be back on the football map with moves to set up a new team bearing the name of the town.

Oswestry Villa is the chosen name for the new club after soccer fans were told legal red tape meant they were unable to use the title Oswestry Town FC.

The new club will be based at Gatacre playing fields in the town, although it is not yet known which league the new team would compete in. And members of Oswestry Town Council have agreed in principle to the new club using the town crest on its shirts.

The move will resurrect the Oswestry Villa name – a club of the same name had success during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

The original Oswestry club, Oswestry United, was founded in 1860, making it one of the world's oldest football clubs.

The renamed Oswestry Town Football Club won the Cheshire League in 1972, competed in the Northern Premier League and they also reached the FA Cup 1st round on several occasions. However, it went into decline and was forced to sell its Victoria Road ground to pay its debts folding completely in the late 1980s.

It reformed in the 1990 joining the Welsh league, and in 2003 merged with the Llansantffraid-based Total Network Solutions – now renamed The New Saints and recently crowned Welsh Premier League champions.

The application says the new homes could create 'a natural extension to the village'. The site would lie to the east of West Felton near Felton Park, to the west of Holycross.

Developers had originally wanted to build 150 homes on the site, but the figure was cut after the original plans received 'little support' during a public consultation.

Rory Galliers, a spokesman for Balfours, said: "We have reduced the number of homes considerably and the size of the site and retained the existing playing fields."

"It is only an outline application so we can have further consultation of what facilities the villagers want on the open space."

Public opinion sways builder

MORE than 50 homes could be built in West Felton.

Balfours has submitted an outline application on behalf of Tedsmore Estate for the homes to be built north of Tedsmore Road in the village. The site is currently used as grazing land.

The application says the new homes could create 'a natural extension to the village'. The site would lie to the east of West Felton near Felton Park, to the west of Holycross.

Developers had originally wanted to build 150 homes on the site, but the figure was cut after the original plans received 'little support' during a public consultation.

Rory Galliers, a spokesman for Balfours, said: "We have reduced the number of homes considerably and the size of the site and retained the existing playing fields."

"It is only an outline application so we can have further consultation of what facilities the villagers want on the open space."

Giveaway for Bard's birthday



WORLD Book Night is back, with a third book giveaway planned for Shakespeare's birthday on April 23. There's an air of the event pulling in its horns a little, with organisers planning to distribute only 500,000 books in the UK in 2013 half as many as in previous years. Oswestry Library is stocking a range of the selected books. Setting out the World Book Night display, was library assistant Louise Taylor Kennett. Picture: Peter Flemmich.

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01691 668094

NEWS**Art show in appeal for local sponsors**

ARTISTS from all over the country are entering an art competition in Oswestry with a £1,000 prize.

Qube Open Art Exhibition is run by gallery Qube, in Oswald Road, and staff are looking for local and national businesses willing to sponsor the event.

The theme of this year's competition is 'She' and there is a first prize of £1,000. There is also a people's choice prize where the public can vote for their favourite piece in the gallery and win exhibition space in Qube gallery in 2014.

A spokesman for Qube said: "Any business wishing to be involved with such a donation would receive publicity with all promotional materials about the competition and at all events associated with the competition, as well as social media communications."

For details or to sponsor the event call Mrs Parry on (01691) 656882, or email info@qube-oca.org.uk

Canal meeting

PEOPLE are invited to the Friends of Montgomery Canal's annual meeting at Llanymynech Village Hall on Saturday at 7.30pm. On May 11 the group is holding a triathlon. For details visit www.montgomerycanal.co.uk or call (01691) 831455.



On the stall was Ceri Evans, from Incredible Edible Oswestry.

PEOPLE young and old flocked to Oswestry to plant vegetables as part of a seed sowing event.

The event, on Bailey Head on Saturday, was run by Incredible Edible, a group which has been set up to encourage local food growing, as part of Plant A Seed Day.

Experienced gardeners were also on hand to demonstrate and help people.

Everyone was allowed to take their seeds home so they can have some home-grown produce later in the summer.

by Chrissy Symmons

Anne Hendrie, event spokeswoman, said: "Incredible Edible aims to establish community gardens, encourage home-growing of food in the smallest of spaces such as pots and balconies, make use of surplus produce at times of plenty, plant some public areas with edible and insect-friendly plants, and compile a list of volunteer gardeners with expertise and time to help with projects. "Other planned activities include setting



Ceri with visitors, Leya Hampson and Daisy O'Reilly. Pictures: Peter Flemmich.

up a tool bank, holding an apple day in October, and organising a display in an empty shop window."

Last month, a public meeting was held in the town and 50 people turned up to try to create ways of making the town healthier.

As a result there were a number of suggestions to start up initiatives including a 'bank' for people to borrow gardening tools.

Plant A Seed Day is part of Edible Britain, a national scheme that aims to improve the environment, bring communities together through gardening, and see

new public herb and vegetable gardens planted across the UK.

Through community food growing, people can meet and learn from experienced gardeners, and enjoy fresh healthy local food.

An email address has now been set up for people to send the group suggestions on how to grow and promote the incredible edible idea at teoswestry@gmail.com

A Facebook page has already been launched. For more information on Plant A Seed Day call Anne Hendrie on (01691) 659773 or email the above address.

Line-up of events to help beat recession

A SERIES of events and initiatives are being run in Oswestry to help beat the worst effects of the recession.

An Apple Day will be held in October and is being organised by Kate Clarke and Oswestry Town Council clerk David Clough.

And traders are continuing to support country markets held every two weeks at Oswestry Memorial Hall.

Ms Clarke said the Apple Day will promote and celebrate allotments, home-grown fruit and vegetables and would also include musical entertainment.

She said she was passionate about the issue of home-grown produce and also praised the country market.

She said: "We are going through a recession and so we are getting more resourceful. The country market is fantastic. It is a regular event and has some great jams."

"The jam making is sourced locally and the fruit for the jam is grown, they then make it into jam and bring it to the market. When people buy it they are probably buying it from the person who made it."

"It is local people growing locally and bringing and selling."

The next country markets will take place on April 24 and May 1 and they will run from 8.30am until 1pm.

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01691 668094

NEWS**Couple in move to open new noodle bar**

A NOODLE bar could soon open in Oswestry town centre creating a number of jobs, if planning permission is granted.

Christopher Norcross and his wife currently trade as Tams cafe and noodle bar, in Chirk, and are looking to expand their business by moving to the town.

They have chosen the location for the new bar to be at 8/10 New Street, in Oswestry, and say they have already been granted an eight year lease.

The premises was a shop and will need to be converted and so now the couple have applied to Shropshire Council for planning permission.

It is planned that the shop will have a waiting area for customers as well as a stool bar and a seating area.

Mr and Mrs Norcross wrote a letter to go along with the application.

It read: "We are currently trading as Tams Cafe and noodle bar in Chirk where we have built up a good reputation.

A second planning application has also been submitted to Shropshire Council from a separate applicant also requesting permission to set up a takeaway in the town.

This time the location is the Mosaic House in Smithfield Street.

Strengthening works are to begin on listed road bridge

A GRADE II listed road bridge which has a major crack in it, will be strengthened and repaired so lorries can use it once again.

Llansantffraid Bridge has suffered the damage due to a number of vehicles driving on one side to avoid a footpath.

Lorries are now being forced to go on a lengthy diversion route due to the 18 tonne weight limit currently in place.

Powys County Council's planning committee voted unanimously to give the council listed building consent to carry out strengthening and repair works, which members said would boost the village economy.

Louise Ruggieri, planning officer, said the footpath, which runs alongside the bridge, would be removed to allow an even spread of traffic.

She said: "This application is in respect of listed building consent for works to Llansantffraid Bridge on the eastern edge of the village towards Four Crosses. The structure is Grade II listed as an elegant two arch 18th century bridge in an ancient bridge location, which has retained its character notwithstanding the problem its narrow width poses for modern traffic.

"The works to the bridge include replacement of fill with mass concrete to provide a reinforced concrete saddle on each arch and removal of the footway and a shared surface introduced.

She added: "The structure currently has a weight restriction, putting local businesses at a disadvantage, so it is accepted that strengthening work is necessary."

Councillor Kelyn Curry said he was worried about removing the footpath.

He said: "I worry it will be a danger to pedestrians. It also operates as a barrier in case a car hits it, rather than hitting the bridge or even falling in the water."

Councillor Michael Williams added: "There is currently a diversion for lorries weighing 18 tonnes so this would be a boost to the village economy. The work is long overdue in my opinion."

by Graham Breeze

Village library held in church

VILLAGEERS are creating their own public library inside their parish church amid fears that the mobile library service could stop in the future.

Shropshire Council's mobile library service visits Trefonen, near Oswestry, once a fortnight on a Tuesday, stopping outside the Bawley Mow Inn, in Chapel Lane.

But Ernest Osman, from Trefonen, said he fears this service may not carry on in the village in the future and so has decided to take matters into his own hands.

He said the All Saints Church in the village is open most week days so he has come up with the idea to create a small public library in there – and he has already collected a number of books.

But a spokesman for Shropshire Council said the mobile library service would continue, visiting from 9am to 9.30am.

Anyone wishing to donate towards the library can call Mr Osman on (01691) 654184.

Victoria meets the zoo gang



Victoria Edmonds feeding the ring-tailed lemurs at Dudley Zoological Gardens.

A WOMAN from Oswestry became zoo keeper for the day when she joined staff to help them look after Lemurs.

Victoria Edmonds, 23, from Oswestry, was treated to the experience as a birthday present.

She joined staff at Dudley Zoological Gardens where she worked with lemurs and other animals. The experience allowed her to go behind the scenes at the award-winning tourist attraction.

Victoria said: "I would definitely recommend this experience to all age groups, the keepers are friendly and knowledgeable and you really get to know the different personalities of all the animals."

"It was a fantastic day out. It's so hard to choose a best part of the day as everything was amazing but feeding the lemurs and the owls was particularly enjoyable."

Funds raised through the scheme support the zoo's conservation and animal project.

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COMMENT

Parking figures have to be seen to be believed

IT TAKES some believing but nearly 50,000 fewer vehicles used Oswestry's car parks during the last financial year.

Figures released by the town council revealed that almost 1,000 drivers per week turned their backs on the town centre.

These are alarming figures but the big question is are the numbers down because of the empty shops or are the shops empty because of the drop in visitor numbers?

Tickets

There were 775,949 tickets issued for all three car parks during 2012/2013, a drop of 49,138 on the previous year - a six per cent drop.

He said that there had been a five per cent decrease in those using the car parks

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

with Graham Breeze



for up to an hour and a four per cent decrease in people using the car parks for between one and two hours.

But the figures showed that the numbers staying for between two to four hours had dropped by 13 per cent and four to six hours by 30 per cent.

The Town Council is to be commended for launching many initiatives in a bid to attract more people to the town centre - but the reality is the figures are likely to fall again when more out-of-town shopping outlets open.



ALARMING figures this week showed that in Powys one in four teenagers have not had two MMR jabs, so are not fully protected against measles as more and more cases are reported across Wales and Shropshire.

The vaccine provides protection very quickly and measles in teenage years can be extremely nasty.

While nearly all the attention has been on the baby population it is really important to ensure all youngsters have completed the full course.



I COULDN'T help thinking what a great job our voluntary firemen do as over 40 of them spent the night battling a major timber yard blaze just outside Welshpool on Tuesday.

Yes the guys get paid an allowance for turning out at a minute's notice but they do a fantastic job and have to be back at their day jobs the next day, despite having had no sleep.

They also put their lives on the line for us in dangerous situations and these retained officers often have to turn out to incidents that will involve friends or family.



WHAT annoyed me this week was being held up for quite some time in a supermarket checkout queue.

Why is it that people don't decide to pay for their money to pay until all their shopping is packed neatly away - often on top of the very purse that they are looking for?

It's obvious that you need to pay for the chosen goods, isn't it?

If this carries on I'm going to stop doing the shopping.

Life takes a new twist as Michael starts retirement

by Iain St John

A GRANDFATHER who retired after the county's prison was closed last month has found a novel way of filling the extra time he now has on his hands - by launching new martial arts classes.

And he is bringing his passion to Oswestry.

Michael Corten, 54, worked as a prison officer at Shrewsbury Prison for 25 years and chose to take early retirement rather than move to another prison when it was closed at the end of March.

Hobby

But rather than tending the garden or taking up a new hobby as recently-retired people often do, Mr Corten is continuing with his love of the martial art of aikido.

He already runs classes at the Shrewsbury Sports Village on Sundorne Road on Tuesday evenings.

And with a bit more time on his hands, the father-of-three is starting a new class at the same venue on Friday evenings starting from April 19.

And he is bringing aikido to Oswestry too, by launching a class at Oswestry Leisure Centre on Shrewsbury Road on Thursday evenings starting from April 18.

The prison at the Dana closed last month as part of nationwide Government plans to save £63 million a year in running costs.

More than 200 members of staff were affected by the closure of Shrewsbury Prison, with some taking voluntary redundancy and others moving to different prisons.

A uniformed parade was held at Shrewsbury Prison to mark its closure before the keys to the grade II-listed building



Michael Corten, left, is now bringing aikido to Oswestry.



Aikido goes down a storm at a class in Shrewsbury.

ing were handed over to the Ministry of Justice.

Mr Corten, who has practised aikido for 32 years and is a fourth dan black belt, said he has ran classes in the area at several venues - including the prison.

He said: "At one time I actually ran the regular classes at the jail's gym but they were for the public and any staff who wanted to join in - not for the prisoners obviously."

"We have been at several other venues,

but have now been at the Shrewsbury Sports Village for the past four years.

"When we were told the prison was closing I was offered a chance of being redeployed elsewhere but I was looking to take early retirement anyway.

Delighted

"This has given me the chance to put on the extra classes and I delighted to be able to bring aikido to Oswestry.

"I teach people of all abilities and levels

and I can also grade them through to attain their belts. I think it is so important to be able to defend yourself these days and aikido does just that.

"It teaches you discipline and it non-combative so it is about being able to fend off attackers whether they try to kick or punch you or even come at you with a weapon."

People interested in joining Mr Corten's new classes should contact the leisure centres.

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LETTERS & NEWS

Fitness instructor moves to new base

A FITNESS trainer who was left with no electricity and no working toilets when a nearby business closed just four months ago is now on the brink of opening a new base after £50,000 of investment.

Danni Evans, 36, runs Fitness2improve above Le Belle Vie in the old town hall in Ellesmere.

But when the restaurant suddenly closed in December she was left with no lighting, heating or water in part of the building.

Now an investor has helped her turn the nightmare into a new start as she will open Basecamp Health & Fitness Centre at Ellesmere Business Park next month.

"It was in January we were approached by the investor, it was a blase comment I made and then we were asked to provide a business plan," she said. "That belief in us gave me the belief in myself."

The mum-of-three will be supported by her husband James, 34, who is leaving his job as a cover supervisor at the Lakelands School to join the business. And she said the new base is a dream come true.

She said: "Phase one was to get in there, phase two to do the mezzanine floor and phase three will be to add another toilet and shower facilities in there as well."

"Because of the investor we were able to combine phases one and two and we're hoping to achieve phase three within the next year."

Youths to sing at hall

A MUSICAL evening featuring talented young singers will be held at Llanfechain Memorial Hall on Saturday at 7pm.

The evening, entitled Hymns and Arias, is being hosted by the Llanfechain Show committee to raise funds for the summer show.

Pieces will be performed by pupils from Llanfyllin, Llanidloes and Oswestry High Schools accompanied by Gloria Ellis.

Tickets will be £5.50 for adults and £3 for children or the parents of those taking part. They are available from Llanfechain Community Shop or by ringing June on (01691) 828077 or Elizab-

Memories of Thatcher visit to county

I RECALL a visit to Shropshire by Margaret Thatcher to open the new study wing at Ellesmere College.

The then headmaster David Skipper had carefully selected studies to show her and pupils to meet her. On entering the first study she spotted gaps in the posters on the wall and on asking was told that these had been removed for her visit.

She then asked, "Headmaster, are we being shown selected studies?"

The next study that she chose had cut-outs of underwear placed on the pin-up girls which she found hilarious.

Another revealed Ergy Williams sitting below a 'Hands off student unions' poster. This delighted her and she proceeded to verbally lay into Ergy who, fair play, did some of his own shouting. She thoroughly enjoyed herself.

Some years later I joined Saatchi as a trainee when they were handling the Conservative advertising campaign.

Thatcher was frequently in the building.

I was also sharing a house with her secretary who mentioned the college visit which she recalled with pleasure.

She also took time to ask after me and my job on several occasions.

Like her or hate her politics, she had a good sense of humour and won over the college pupils who tended to be hard judges of character.

ROBIN LLOYD, Ellesmere



BACK in November 1973 members of Oswestry Round Table had restored a Victorian fire engine. It was found at an Oswestry garage and bore the inscription: 'Presented to the town of Oswestry by the Volunteer Fire Brigade by Mrs A. Wynne Corrie, 1887, the Jubilee year of Her Gracious Majesty, Victoria.' The maker was Shand Mason of London. On left is John Hewitt, who was in charge of the restoration work, and on right is Llew Hughes, organiser of the Round Table's Christmas parade for that year, when the engine was due to be displayed.

No end of kindness in town

I WOULD like to give my utmost thanks to the young couple who came to my aid after a fall in Oswald Road, Oswestry, on the morning of Thursday, April 4.

They gave me considerable help before leaving me at the Minor Injuries Unit for treatment.

I'm a man of mature years – in my 80s, with disabilities – and have been assisted recently in other incidents eg. a lady stopping me to tie my shoelaces (which I hadn't noticed had come undone!) and a man helping me off the ice.

It makes me think that there are no end of kind people in Oswestry and districts.

RAMON EDE
Gobowen

LETTERS to the Editor

POST
Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU

FAX
01952
254605

E-MAIL
letters@oswestry
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Thatcher's legacy is in UK's de-industrialisation

THOSE who seek Margaret Thatcher's legacy will find it in the de-industrialisation of the UK; the destruction of coal mining; the privatisation of public-owned utilities (flogged off at low prices); deregulation of banking and financial institutions, which eventually caused the 2008 crash.

The sale of council houses and the restriction of local authorities who wished to invest the proceeds into building new houses; support for the Apartheid regime in South Africa and the Pinochet regime in Chile; flogging off North Sea oil and failing to invest that revenue in the UK.

Her 'market knows best' mantra infected every corner of public services including the police, NHS, prison service and even the BBC. Yes, this lady changed the face of politics in this country and the damage caused will take years to repair – if ever. Farewell Margaret and thanks a bunch!

PETER SAYLES, Oswestry

Clear up scheme is snow joke

WHICHEVER council or department is responsible for organising snow clearing in Oswestry has once again revealed the most selective and cynical assessment of the problems it causes and gone for the basics – clear the roads, clear the car parks, collect the revenue and forget the pedestrians.

It is hardly rocket science to calculate that it would be easier to remove snow when it is fresh.

Minimum effort to clear this snow was made in the town centre, outside that area the state of our pavements was a total disgrace. Maximum effort went into looking after the 30 million motorists.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

01691 668094

Triathlon event at Mere gets scrapped

A SPORTING event running for 20 years in Ellesmere has been scrapped due to a lack of interest.

Organisers of the 21st TRI UK Shropshire Triathlon feared they would have lost more than £14,000 if they had gone ahead with this year's event. The triathlon – also known as the Ellesmere Triathlon – usually attracts hundreds of competitors from all over the country.

It was due to take place on May 26 in Ellesmere. Organisers said they had received 129 entries, but needed over 370 for it to break even.

The committee is due to meet soon to consider how it may be reinstated next year.

A statement on the Shropshire Tri website said: "It is with great regret the 21st Annual TRI UK Shropshire Triathlon has been cancelled. The main reason is financial. Due to the significant dip in entries on previous years, we have forecast we would lose over £14,000. This was despite 129 entries already received and the possibility of more before entries closed, but we needed in excess of 370 for the event to break even."

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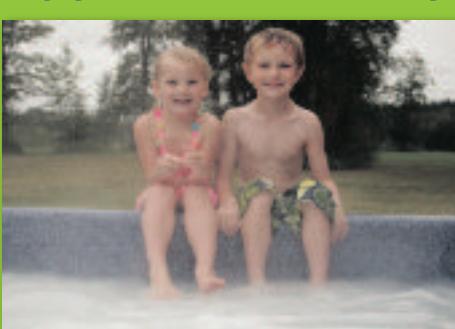
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WELSHPOOL**NEWS
in brief****Singers to hit the stage at church**

GUILSFIELD Singers will perform their spring concert on Saturday night in St Mary's Church, Welshpool, at 7.30pm.

And following a successful partnership in 2011, they will again perform with the Maldwyn Strings who will accompany their principal work, as well as feature in the evening's programme.

Saturday's concert will present the Schubert Mass in G as well as works by Monteverdi and Parry amongst others. Principal soloist Sarah Garrett will be joined by Bethan Scott-ford.

Ticket, £8, can be obtained on the door or from Welshpool Jewellers. Call (01938) 590809.

Ramblers head off on Big Welsh Walk

WELSHPOOL Ramblers will be taking part in the Big Welsh Walk as part of the Ramblers' National Walking Festival organised by Ramblers Cymru.

The Welshpool Group is inviting families to join them on May 4 in a five and a half mile walk though Powis Castle grounds, woodland and along the towpath of the canal.

The walk starts from the Powys Council Office car park in Severn Street, Welshpool at 11am.

For further information please telephone Vic or Sandra on 01743 884930 (mobile 07790 423302).

Air ambulances boosted by gift of new life-saving kit

A NEW state-of-the-art piece of lifesaving equipment has been added to the Welshpool-based Mid Wales air ambulance after £15,000 of donations.

The Wales Air Ambulance said its three helicopters – including the one based in Welshpool – had been kitted out with video laryngoscopes, which allow paramedics to clear a patient's airway with the assistance of a microscopic camera.

The new technology will help the paramedics continue their vital work making life-saving medical interventions within the 'golden hour' – the first 60 minutes after a trauma that are crucial to a patient's survival.

Jason Williams, clinical and operations manager for the Air Ambulance at Welshpool, said the new equipment has been acquired thanks to two generous donations totalling £15,000.

Mr Williams said the new laryngoscopes will greatly help the charity's lifesaving work.

He said: "This is life saving equipment that uses a fibre optic camera to insert a tube into an adult or child's airway in order to assist their breathing."

"We are the first air ambulance in the UK to introduce this equipment, and are very proud to be able to offer even better lifesaving treatment to casualties across Wales."

"The video laryngoscopes will help our paramedics ensure trauma patients receive the most appropriate care within the crucial 'golden hour'."

Blocked or damaged airways are among the most common problems that affect trauma victims, and the video laryngoscopes give paramedics an increased chance of ensuring patients' airways are clear, providing a clear image of any blockages or damage endured.

Angela Hughes, Wales Air Ambulance's chief executive, said: "It's fantastic that we've been able to fit our helicopters with this equipment, and we couldn't have done it without the assistance of two very generous donations."

More information can be found at www.peoplesmillions.org.uk or by telephoning 0845 010 1112.



Wales Air Ambulance paramedics Chris Connor and Jason Hughes try out the new video laryngoscope.

Tenants needed on board of group

MID Wales Housing Association is appealing to its Welshpool tenants to join their board.

The association says their input will be vital as it bids to continually improve its services and face up to the financial hardships ahead.

The Association wants individuals with a passion for social housing and who can help take decisions collectively and monitor the company's performance.

The board comprises 14 members, of which two are tenants, but the association wishes to strengthen its tenant representation.

Shane Perkins, chief executive, said: "In these challenging times, it is vital to ensure that the board of management has the necessary skills and experience which complement the business goals and provide strong leadership and guidance.

"We are constantly looking to increase the board's knowledge base as wide as possible to reflect the association's responsibility to its tenants and stakeholders and I welcome applicants from our properties throughout the area who believe they can make a difference to the way in which their association is run."

If any tenant is interested, they should ring Janet Price on 0300 111 3030.



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NEWS**NEWS**
in brief**Soup and sweet at village chapel**

SOUP and a sweet will be served up at a village chapel today (Thursday).

Pentre Llifon Chapel, in Berriew near Welshpool, is holding an event called Soup and Sweet in the Stable.

The event is held every third Thursday of the month and those wishing to dine are advised to arrive by 12.30pm ready to be served from 1pm.

For more information call (01686) 621354.

The chapel has also now reopened for the tourist season and visitors are welcome from 2pm to 4.30pm each Wednesday and Thursday.

Fun with flowers night to aid funds

A FLORAL demonstration will be held in Trefonen to raise cash for charity.

Fun with Flowers and Song will take place in aid of the Trefonen Hill Walk weekend this year.

The evening of flowers, music and posh puddings will be held on May 16 from 7.30pm at All Saints Church. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Support and Bulembu School in Swailand.

Tickets cost £7.50 on (01691) 668618.

Society meeting

THE next meeting of the North Powys Decorative and Fine Arts Society is in the Powis Suite of The Royal Oak, Welshpool, on April 25 at 7.30pm.

Business start-up sessions aim to help the over-50s

PEOPLE over the age of 50 looking to start their own businesses will be given a helping hand in Oswestry to start work.

A national charity dedicated to helping the over 50s explore self-employment will host a series of workshops from April 23.

The Prince's Initiative for Mature Enterprise, part of the Prince's Initiative, will be holding the first workshop at The Centre in Oak Street.

There are currently 3,300 self-employed workers in Oswestry and The Prince's Initiative promotes self-employment as a viable route into sustainable employment.

It believes that this could be a possible alternative for the 1,600 economically inactive 50-64 year-olds in the area.

Challenging

The workshops will take place over six to eight weeks, including three classroom days, and will take people over the age of 50 through the challenging process of preparing to run their own business.

Their experience is often sacrificed against cost.

"We help people respond positively and all the evidence shows that they make a success of it, still running businesses at the key one year and three year stages," he added.

More information about the course can be found at www.prime.org.uk/courses or by ringing 0845 862 2023.

by Sue Austin

"The support and guidance they give to those they work with is outstanding, and opens their horizons to another employment path they may not have considered or felt confident enough to try otherwise."

Nick Bunting, The Prince's Initiative's chief executive, said: "Mature workers face a perfect storm of longer working lives, a pensions' crisis, economic downturn and the uphill struggle to find employment once it is lost."

"Their experience is often sacrificed against cost."

"We help people respond positively and all the evidence shows that they make a success of it, still running businesses at the key one year and three year stages," he added.

More information about the course can be found at www.prime.org.uk/courses or by ringing 0845 862 2023.

Budding bookworms scoop prizes



Competition winners William Bachelor, Rachel Roberts and Jessica Pike with, back left to right, Rotarians Stephen Thomas and John Ward with Heather Rodenhurst, from Oswestry Library.

AN annual book review competition to encourage reading among primary school children in Oswestry has been deemed a great success.

The competition was organised by Oswestry Library and Oswestry Rotary Club and this year's contest was a book review competition with a twist.

It took the form of a letter writing competition and the letters were to be addressed to Michael Morpurgo, the children's author who visited the town during last month's Oswestry Festival of the Word.

The children had to tell Mr Morpurgo which of his books was their favourite and why. Out of the 220 entries received from 12 schools, Rachel Roberts, from Kinnerley School, emerged the winner.

Part of her prize was to meet Mr Morpurgo during his visit to the Marches School in Oswestry.

The runner-up was Jessica Pike, from Woodside School, and William Bachelor, also from Woodside School, took third place.

Their prizes consisted of gift tokens and a book.

National art show returning to college

A NATIONAL art exhibition in Ellesmere which attracted more than 600 visitors last year has proved so successful that it will return next month.

Work by more than 60 artists and sculptors from across the country will be featured in the second Ellesmere National Art Exhibition at Ellesmere College.

There will be up to 200 pieces of work on display in the Big School Hall including oil paintings, glass sculptures and work created using light, film and sound.

Karen Heald's abstract work includes a piece designed specifically for the exhibition and will feature the Schulze Organ, which is housed in the Big School Hall, and will provide the canvas for the projected piece.

Also new for this year will be the artist workshops on June 1 with Andrew Vaughan, a visual landscape artist from Chester.

It is hoped the exhibition will raise the profile of the arts in the region.

Nick Pettingale, director of external relations at the college, said: "We have always been passionate about the arts at Ellesmere College and after our inaugural exhibition last year, which we are even more excited about this year's event."

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NEWS

Tiny profit margin on forecourts



The petrol station's fuel prices.

by Sue Austin

WHEN a motorist buys a litre of petrol for £1.34 at St Martins Service Station, near Oswestry, it means a 2.3p gross profit for the business.

But the profit on the 55p Mars Bar the driver may then pick up is four times that amount – between eight and nine pence.

The staggering difference highlights the pressure independent fuel stations are under as they find themselves squeezed between lower profit margins offered by oil companies and competition from major supermarkets.

The service station in St Martins, run by brother and sister Michael Horst and Rose Crocker, has been a successful business in the village for the past 17 years.

But they admit that without the garage workshop and the convenience store that form part of the business, it simply would not survive.

Squeezed

It was 12 years ago when they realised that fuel could no longer sustain the business.

Mr Horst said: "When we took over in 1986 there were just two petrol pumps, no diesel, and a little kiosk from where we had to serve the customers."

"We retained the garage workshop, with



At the pumps, Rose Crocker and Mike Horst.

MOTs and services a major part of the business, and put in fully automated pumps.

"Then 12 years ago we could see that fuel was being squeezed and we extended our shop and took on the Londis symbol, developing the convenience store."

He said the decision proved to be the right one.

"The profit we make on fuel is negligible," he said. "We try to make an average of 3p a litre gross profit but at the moment that has dropped to 2.3p. Out of that has to come staff costs and the cost of running the pumps and other outgoings."

For instance, he said, the business had to



Rose and Mike check the stock in their convenience store.

pay a charge for every time a credit card was used. Yet cash was not better. We still have to pay cash handling charges to the bank," he said. And Mr Horst said it was not the fuel company that was making the profits.

"When fuel companies publish their profits everyone assumes they are making money on retailing petrol and diesel," he said. "But it is not, it is from oil exploration and other projects. Those companies are tightening the profit margins they offer while on the other hand the large supermarkets discount their petrol to as low a price as they are able."

He said small independents simply couldn't compete.

"We had a fuel tanker fill deliver 38,000 litres the other day which could last me eight to 10 days," he said.

"Now if tomorrow the supermarkets cut their prices, we simply cannot do the same as our fuel is in the ground, already paid for. Our hands are tied."

"If we are near to a delivery and we know prices are falling then perhaps we could take a loss for a couple of days. But it is a constant and daily, juggling act. The margins are so tight there is no room for manoeuvre."

Mr Horst said there are also costs that the business is unable to recoup.

Drive-offs, where motorists leave without



Mike checks the oil for a customer.

paying, are Mr Horst said, mercifully few and far between. But they have a drastic effect on the business. "We had a drive-off the other day when a driver went off with £30 of fuel," said Mr Horst. That is something that the business, not the oil company, has to cover.

"To make up for that £30 I have to sell 1,000 litres of fuel. That is 25 per cent of my daily profit on fuel lost."

Yet despite the difficulties and poor profit margins the brother and sister said it is a business worth carrying on.

Mr Horst said: "We have great staff in the workshop and in the store and some incredibly loyal customers."

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NEWS**Fast food outlet may create up to 35 jobs**

PIZZA chain store Domino's could be setting up in Oswestry with the potential of creating up to 35 jobs.

Domino's bosses have revealed they are looking at possible sites for a shop in the town.

They say they have identified Oswestry as having 'great potential' for their pizzas and if they opened a store it would create many jobs.

The announcement comes days after KFC revealed it is due to open its restaurant in five weeks time.

KFC is bringing a drive-through to the town which will create 45 jobs and its bosses have been working to recruit staff. They have been looking to employ an assistant restaurant general manager and team leaders.

It is being built on the Oswestry Gateway development, near the Mile End roundabout. KFC will be joined by Starbucks which is creating a premises close by.

Speaking about plans for Oswestry, a Domino's Pizza spokesperson said: "Domino's has 810 stores in the UK, Republic of Ireland, Germany and Switzerland and has a goal to increase this to 1,200 stores by 2021."

"We've identified Oswestry as having great potential and are currently looking at possible sites. Opening a store will generate 25-35 new jobs."

Business is in the running for top award after one year

A MOTHER who launched her own business so she could spend more time with her newborn son has been nominated for a top national award.

Helen Jones launched Baby Sensory Shropshire last year after deciding she did not want to go back into full-time work following the birth of her little boy Tohey.

Just one year after launching the sensory classes, aimed at newborn babies to 13 months, she has now been nominated for one of the categories in the prestigious What's On 4 2013 Junior Awards. The Junior Awards have been supported by ABC Magazine and celebrates the best activities, classes, volunteers and venues from across the UK.

Mrs Jones, 31, runs classes designed to support babies' sensory development through activities and play in Oswestry and Shrewsbury.

She was nominated for an award in the Most Outstanding Activity Leader for the Under 5s (West and Wales) category by parents and parents-to-be and will now go through to the national voting stage.

She said: "I am so pleased to have been nominated for this fantastic award. Working with beautiful babies is so rewarding, it's the best job in the world and I love it. I am extremely grateful to everybody that voted for me."

The winners will be announced by TV celebrity host Lucy Piper at Brighton Racecourse during a champagne awards ceremony on June 30.

What's On 4 UK owners Marilyn Bradshaw & Bev O'Sullivan said: "We're so excited about our 2013 Awards especially as this year the UK awards are running alongside both the Australian and Ireland What's On 4 Junior Awards."

"Everyone through to this stage should be very proud that the nation's parents are so keen to nominate and reward them. We can't wait to see the results of the voting."

Voting for nominees ends on May 28 and parents can log on to www.whatson4littleones.co.uk, www.whatson4schoolkids.co.uk and www.whatson4kidsparties.co.uk to vote for Mrs Jones and her Baby Sensory classes.

Parents wanting to find out more about Helen's Shropshire classes can email shropshire@babysensory.co.uk or call 07917794045.



Pictured, back, from left, Lisa Sawyer with Heidi, Gillian Ridgeway with Sebastian, Kate Smith with Riley, and Angela Walsh with Luke. Front right, class leader, Anna Taylor, at the Baby Sensory classes. Picture: Peter Flemmich

Mother's backing for legal fund bid

THE mother of two girls born prematurely has hit out plans to transfer her nearest special baby care unit to the Wirral.

Donna Harrington from Llangynog in Mid Wales went into labour early with her children, Emilie, seven, and Evie, five.

She says if she had to go to Arrowe Park Hospital, near Birkenhead, instead of Wrexham Maelor Hospital the strain would have been tremendous.

The Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's proposals for transfer of neonatal services from Wrexham to the Wirral have been met with protests.

Campaigners have launched a fund to try to fund a judicial review.

Mrs Harrington said that Emilie spent three weeks in the Wrexham unit after being born seven weeks premature, but when Evie was born at 30 weeks, the unit was full. "They had to transfer us to Glan Clwyd Hospital in North Wales," she said.

Campaigners battling to stop the transfer of intensive care services for babies born more than 13 weeks early from North Wales to Arrowe Park have set up a legal fighting fund to take the health board to court.

North Wales Health Alliance wants to take the board to a judicial review.

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Cynthia turned hobby into booming business



Cynthia Cartt with some of the prints on sale at Tranquill Arts Decoupage in St Martins.

IF you are looking for that special something for your collection or for a gift a St Martins business may have just what you need.

Tranquill Arts Decoupage is based in the village of St Martins and is run by Cynthia Cartt, who turned her hobby into a business at the age of 46.

Now the business has over 200

Advertisement feature

Decoupage prints for cards and pictures on offer featuring scenes from the olden days to the modern. There's a wide selection of images from animals to scenic views, portraits and many more.

The St Martins business operates out of Smithy Cottage and offers a selection of prints to suit all occasions

in any size you chose.

There are all sizes of box frames for crafting and a large amount of crafting products at low prices and orders can be taken if required.

Cynthia particularly enjoys teaching children and runs two hour sessions on either a one-to-one basis or for groups of five at a cost of £5 per person plus materials.

For more information call Cynthia on 01691 777843.

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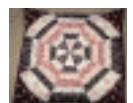
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NEWS**Event will help raise funds for charities**

FOR years women have been walking and running to raise funds and awareness for cancer – now men are being urged to do the same.

A Rotarian in Oswestry has decided it is time men stand up for cancer and is organising a five-kilometre walk in aid of charities including Prostate Cancer UK and Orchid, a charity fighting male cancer.

Men Walking For Men will take place on May 12 starting at Oswestry School Playing fields, in Upper Brook Street from 10am.

People will have to sign in at the Pavilion on Maes y Llan, at Oswestry School, from 8am.

Oswestry rotarian John Ward is organising the event. He said: "The Rotary Club of Oswestry is holding a health awareness day and there are three women going round trying to make more aware of their health."

"The women do the work and they have been doing Race For Life for Cancer Research UK for many years. We men are still doing nothing, it is about time we got up and did something, so we are organising the walk."

Walkers must register in advance and pay £10 – see <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/menwalkingformen/96085>.

Alternatively, visit www.rotaryclubsoswestry.co.uk or call 07803019999.

Movement centre rewards youngsters for hard work

YOUNGSTERS from across the Oswestry area were honoured at an annual awards day.

Oswestry-based charity The Movement Centre, a leading cerebral palsy centre, held its annual awards at The Venue, in Park Hall near Oswestry.

Some of the young patients who have progressed well, some walking for the very first time, received awards for all their hard work and bravery in front of their proud parents.

Children who have recently completed a course of targeted training therapy were invited to the party to collect certificates and awards.

by Graham Breeze

now, he has worked really hard."

Rhona Avery, a spokeswoman for the awards, said: "The awards went really well. All the children enjoyed it. We had a really good time this year."

Cadbury Chirk donated a chocolate hamper as a raffle prize and Nigel Edwards from Cadbury was on hand to give donated Easter eggs to all the children, who also enjoyed party food, face painting and soft play.

For details on The Movement Centre or targeted training visit www.themovement-centre.co.uk or call (01691) 404248.

The Movement Centre charity is based at The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Hospital, Oswestry, and provides targeted training – a specialist physiotherapy service for children with cerebral palsy and other movement control difficulties.

She said: "When William first started at The Movement Centre he couldn't even hold his head up now he has walked a mile. I am really proud of him."

"He got the award as a thank you for all the hard work he has done. He has finished the course now and it is nice to be at the awards.

"He has been going to the centre for almost three years.

"It is amazing to see him



At the special awards day for children who attend the Movement Centre at the Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Hospital in Oswestry are, back, from left, Dan Armstrong with William Armstrong, Evie Lou-Harrington, Adele Baxter and Sally Garster. In front, from left, are Samuel Antrobus and Rebecca Foulkes. Picture: Peter Flemmich

Runner's marathon challenge for cause

WHEN Mark Blakeley had to have his knees 'reconstructed' after years of footballing injuries he thought his sporting days were over.

But on Sunday Mark, 34, of St Martins, near Oswestry, will take part in the London Marathon, raising money for Alzheimer's Research UK.

His bid to raise funds for the dementia charity is linked with his job as the manager of an Iceland food store on Shropshire/north Wales border.

Mr Blakeley said: "Since Iceland has been supporting Alzheimer's Research UK it's opened my eyes to the enormity of this disease and the dreadful lack of funding for research."

"I ran the London Marathon for the charity last year and couldn't resist doing it for a second time. I'm hoping to improve my time of 4 hours 40 minutes."

He added: "I had both my knees reconstructed four years ago as a result of football injuries and shied away from sport after that. But the London Marathon has inspired me to get active again."

Donate online at www.justgiving.com/Mark-Blakeley1 and to find out more about fundraising contact fundraising@alzheimersresearchuk.org or call 0300 111 5 777.

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Substantial family home in a premier part of town

Set in a highly desirable part of Oswestry, Yeardsley, Croeswylan Lane, is a superbly presented and updated five-bedroom detached house in excellent decorative order.

On the market for £475,000, the property has the benefit of extensive gardens, gas-fired central heating and aluminium double glazing with original oak frames.

Accommodation comprises a porch, entrance hall, inner lobby, cloaks/wc, and large reception hall. The lounge and the sitting room both have

attractive open fireplaces and overlook the garden, and the dining room features wood flooring and the original, working servants' bell.

There is also a spacious kitchen/dining/family room with a good range of units, built-in dishwasher and double doors out to the patio from the dining area. A cloakroom, utility and a study complete the ground floor.

On the first floor, the master bedroom includes a range of fitted mahogany furniture and a large ensuite bathroom. There are two more double

bedrooms on this floor, both with built-in wardrobes, along with a cloaks/wc and family shower room.

Further stairs rise to the second floor where bedrooms four and five are to be found.

The extensive garden is fully enclosed and mainly laid to lawn. There is a patio area outside the dining/family room, and a large gravelled parking area to the side.

For further information contact Halls on 01691 or visit www.hallsestateagents.co.uk



Three-bedroom house handy for town centre

A well-presented three-bedroom end terrace house with a garage, gas-fired central heating and good-sized garden is on the market with Town & Country at a guide price of £124,950.

The accommodation at 46 Llys Road, Oswestry, comprises a porch, lounge, kitchen/diner with built-in oven and hob, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

Situated near the town centre, the property is also ideally located for those commuting to the North and the West Midlands.

For more information contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit www.townandcountryoswestry.com



Detached bungalow is packed with potential

Coed Issa at Penrhos is a detached bungalow set in large gardens just two miles off the main A483 Welshpool to Oswestry road, and also convenient for Shrewsbury.

A home that would benefit from some upgrading, it is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £200,000.

It has a spacious sitting/dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, shower room, three bedrooms, a bathroom, a gravelled drive with a five-bar gate, double garage and large gardens.

For further information contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01938 554818 or visit www.morrismarshall.co.uk.




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TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel : 01691 679631

OSWESTRY




- Two Bed Flat
- Good Size Garden Plot
- Spouting Required

£110,000

OSWESTRY




- Retirement Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Second Floor

£119,950

OSWESTRY




- No CHS
- Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms

£149,950

OSWESTRY




- Three Bedroom Town House
- Three Bed Rooms
- Double Glazing

£165,000

OSWESTRY




- Detached Bungalow
- Two-Bedrooms
- Recently Refurbished

£210,000

MAESBURY



- Detached Family Home
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Double Garage Located
- Refurbished Kitchen

£225,000

2-4 Willow Street, Oswestry, SY11 1AA Visit all our properties at www.townandcountryoswestry.com

LETTINGS

- Oswestry, 1 Bed Flat £315 p.m.
- Four Crosses, 1 Bed Flat £325 p.m.
- Gobewon, 2 Bed End Ter £475 p.m.
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Mid Ter £480 p.m.
- Trefforddu, 1 Bed Barn £495 p.m.
- Chirk, 3 Bed Semi-Det £495 p.m.
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Semi £495 p.m.
- Glynn Cerrig, 3 Bed Semi £500 p.m.
- Llangynog, 3 Bed Hung £620 p.m.
- Dolgwm, 4 Bed Det £695 p.m.
- Crickhowl, 3 Bed Barn £850 p.m.
- Dodleston Heath, House + 6 Acres £1,850 p.m.

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- TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION
- 10.84 Acres

Guide price £60,000

GOWEN



NEW PRICE

£109,950

- Two Bed Bungalow
- 24 Hour Support Staff
- Two BedRooms
- Conservatory
- Garden, EPC - D
- Double Glazing

OSWESTRY




- Modern Semi Detached
- Two BedRooms
- Atticium Conversion

NEW PRICE

£111,950

- New Build EPC D
- Gas Firc, Open Glazing
- Off Road Parking

TREPLACH






- Recently Converted
- Four BedRooms
- Integral Double Garage
- Two Reception Rooms
- Overlooking Fields
- Oak Doors & Wood Floors
- Ensuite & Utility, EPC C
- A Must See Property!

£355,000

LLANRHAeadr




- Detached Cottage
- Three BedRooms
- Sitting Room To Rear

NEW PRICE

£249,950

- Fishing Rights Owned
- Wall Mounting, EPC C
- Great Mud Bathing

TREFONEN




- Detached With Garage
- And Enclosed Area
- Straight Into Village

NEW PRICE

£149,950

- Two BedRooms
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Oil Fired Central Heating

LLANGYNOD



NEW PRICE

£185,000

- Detached Bungalow
- Superb Rural Location
- Close To Schools
- Detached Apartment
- Two EPC C
- Angle Driveway Parking

TREFONEN



NEW PRICE

£194,950

- Detached Bungalow
- Superb Rural Location
- Close To Schools
- Garage Garage At The Rear
- Two EPC C
- Conservatory/Carport

OSWESTRY




- Detached Family Home
- Four Double BedRooms
- Double Glazing, EPC C

NEW PRICE

£209,950

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing, EPC C
- Separate Accommodation

KNOCKIN




- Detached Bungalow
- Four Double BedRooms
- Private Position

NEW PRICE

£232,500

- In Chain EPC F
- Angle Acre Village
- Parking and Garage

OSWESTRY




- Detached Family Home
- Four BedRooms

NEW PRICE

£249,950

- Bright After Location
- Double Garage

ST MARTINS



- Detached Family Home
- Three Double BedRooms
- Double Glazing & Central Heating
- Double Garage Located
- Refurbished Kitchen
- Large Living Room
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Double Glazing, EPC C

£275,000

PENYBOST LLE




- Large Detached House
- 4 Bed + 1 Bed Annex
- Double Glazing
- EPC C
- Large Garden
- Garage
- Off Road Parking

NEW PRICE

£299,950

- Large Detached House
- 4 Bed + 1 Bed Annex
- Double Glazing
- EPC C
- Large Garden
- Garage
- Off Road Parking

£299,950

MELVERLEY



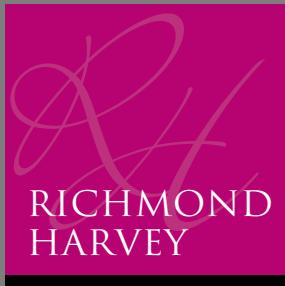

- Country Property
- 4 Bed + 1 Bed Annex
- Large Garden
- Separate Paddocks
- Wall Hammock, EPC E
- 2 Reception Rooms

NEW PRICE

Offers in the region of £325,000

- Character Property
- Three Double BedRooms
- Double Glazing, EPC C
- Large Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Large Hammock
- Large Reception Room

Offers over £360,000



Cabin Lane, Oswestry



NO CHAIN. A rare opportunity to purchase an individual tastefully extended 5 bedroom detached family house which enjoys a generous plot and has the benefit of a range of useful garaging. The well planned accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Porch, Feature Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living Room, Dining Room, Conservatory, Attractive Oak Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Rear Porch, Utility, WC, First Floor Landing, Spacious Master Bedroom with Luxury Ensuite Bathroom, Four Further Bedrooms, Luxury Family Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing where stated, Driveway providing extensive parking and access to garage, generous rear garden. **MUST BE SEEN.**

Offers in Region of £279,950

Bentley Drive, Oswestry



TO LET



Enjoying a sought after residential locality, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this modern spacious 3 storey townhouse to the market which briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Ground Floor Bedroom 4, Study/Bedroom 5, Utility, Living Room, Conservatory, First Floor Landing, Sitting Room, Through Study, Dining Room, Kitchen, Second Floor Landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite with Dressing Room, Two Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Fired Central Heating, Driveway, Garage and Garden to Rear. **AVAILABLE END OF MAY 2013.**

£950 PCM



Wern, Weston Rhyn

Enjoying a delightful hamlet location, Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this substantial 4 bedroom character detached family residence built circular 1803 which offers a wealth of character features to include exposed beams, arched windows, attractive gable, carved fascia boards and finials adding to the unique and individual character present. Cergi also has the benefit of a separate Detached Garage conversion presently utilised as a hobbies room which lends itself to conversion into a separate garage garage subject to the necessary consents. The property enjoys delightful mature gardens and grounds including a paddock in all approximately 1.5 acres or thereabouts. They a one of purchase!

Offers in Region of £599,950



Tregarthen Lane, Pant

Split level detached residence which enjoys delightful views over the Shropshire plain and accommodation to comprise: Reception Hall, 3 Ground Floor Bedrooms and Family Bathroom, First Floor Landing, Cloakroom, Spacious L-shaped Family Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Living Room, Living Room, Inner Bedroom with Ensuite and Walk-In Wardrobe, Studio Bedroom, 5. Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Driveway providing extensive parking, Double Garage, Most attractively landscaped gardens. NO CHAIN.

Offers in the Region of £360,000



Ifton Fields, St Martins

OFFERS INVITED. Enjoying a pleasant cul-de-sac location a most well appointed and deceptively spacious 2 bed mid terraced property which needs to be viewed to appreciate the benefit of being sold with NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Offers in Region of £113,950



Queens Meadow, Queens Head

4/5 bedroom modern executive detached house with Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Ample Off Street Parking, Integral Garage and Enclosed Rear Garden. The property has the benefit of being sold with NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Offers in the Region of £259,950



Valley Court, Morda Road

AVAILABLE NOW.. A tastefully improved and substantial 5 bedroom Victorian residence with Annex and Landscaped Gardens with Sweeping Driveway and Triple Garage.

£1600 PCM



West Street, Oswestry

Sympathetically improved by the present owners. Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this character two bedroom end terraced town house to the market which enjoys a sought after residential locality conveniently placed for local town amenities. The property briefly comprises: entrance hall, lounge, re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room, first floor landing, three bedrooms and bathroom double glazing, gas fired central heating, driveway providing ample off-street parking, garage, gardens front and rear. Early viewing recommended.

Offers in Region of £115,950



Bridgeman Road, Oswestry

A tastefully improved 3 bed semi detached dwelling house which is conveniently placed for local town amenities. The property briefly comprises: entrance hall, lounge, re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room, first floor landing, three bedrooms and bathroom double glazing, gas fired central heating, driveway providing ample off-street parking, garage, gardens front and rear. Early viewing recommended.

Offers in Region of £133,500



Churchfields, St Martins

PRICED FOR QUICK SALE. Modern 2 bedroom link detached bungalow which enjoys a pleasant village location with Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Landscaped Gardens, Driveway

Offers in Region of £135,950



The Meadows, Gobowen

2 bed det bungalow benefiting from a spacious living room with multi fuel stove, study/dining room and a useful side lobby. Enjoying a pleasant cul-de-sac location and conveniently placed for local town amenities. There is also a garage, Enclosed Hall, Re-fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, carport and garage, Gardens front and rear. NO CHAIN.

Offers in Region Of £147,500



Milar's Field, Morda

Constructed during 2007 Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to introduce to the market this most well appointed modern 3 bedroom semi detached property which briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory, Utility Room, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Gardens and Parking. Remaining NHBC Guarantee. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £152,500



Sweeney Drive, Morda

A modern 4 bedroom detached family house which enjoys a pleasant cul-de-sac location within this popular development and benefits from two reception rooms, an attractive kitchen, utility and WC, master bedroom Ensuite, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Gardens and Driveway.

Offers in Region of £189,950



Turners Lane, Llynclys

Elevated 3 bedroom split level detached country house situated near to Llynclys Common Nature Reserve and set in 0.5 acres or thereabouts of mature cottage style gardens.

Accommodation: Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Living Room with Balcony, Utility Room, Separate WC, Lower Ground Floor: Two Further Double Bedrooms and Bathroom, Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing where stated, Workshop. **MUST BE SEEN.**

Open to Offers £305,000



High Street, Weston Rhyn

Sympathetically improved by the current owners, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this most spacious 5 bedroom period detached village residence believed to date back circular 1800. The property offers excellent family accommodation of a flexible nature to include a large lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, utility room, three double bedrooms, family bathroom, oil fired central heating, double glazing, gardens, driveway, garage and parking.

Two Single Garages and Driveway providing parking for several vehicles. The true extent of the property needs to be viewed to fully appreciate the superb accommodation on offer.

Offers in Region of £375,000



Upper Well Close, Oswestry

7 bed executive det dwelling house which briefly comprises: Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Living Room, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Guest Bedroom Two, Double Glazing, Driveway, Attached Double Garage, Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking and garage. Alarm System, Gas Fired CH, DG, Driveway and Attached Double Garage. Generous Rear Garden.

Offers in Region of £389,995



Penybontfawr, Powys

THIS PLOT COULD BE READY FOR OCCUPATION DURING DECEMBER 2013. 5 bed bedroom detached house which enjoys a delightful position within the picturesque surroundings of Llanbrynmair. The property will be finished to a high specification, offers a 10 year NHBC Guarantee.

Asking Price £395,000



Treflach, Nr Oswestry

4 bed det oak framed village residence with luxury fitted Kitchen, Impressive Living Room with feature fireplace, oil fired central heating, double glazing, conservatory, double garage, double glazing, driveway, attached double garage with first floor office and gardens.

Price Guide £430,000



Gittin Street

Spacious two bedroom mature town house conveniently placed for local amenities and transport links which briefly comprises the following well maintained accommodation: Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathrooms, Gas Fired Central Heating, Generous Rear Garden. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £105,000



Summerfield Close, Oswestry

RECENTLY RE-FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM. 3 bedroom semi detached house with Gas Fired Central Heating (Underfloor to Living Room and Kitchen), Radiators to First Floor

Offers in Region of £127,950



Llansilin, Powys

4 bed semi detached Eco friendly design family home with Oil Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, Garage and Low Maintenance Gardens. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £259,950



Vyrnwy Place, Oswestry

2 bedroom end terrace dwelling house which enjoys a convenient location for local town amenities. Gas Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing where stated, Driveway and Gardens to Front and Rear. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £115,000



Smale Rise, Oswestry

WITH REFITTED KITCHEN, SHOWER ROOM AND CONSERVATORY. 2 bed detached bungalow which enjoys a pleasant corner plot position. The present owners have tastefully

Offers in Region £142,500

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Morda
Oswestry

£500,000

**NEW**

- A substantial Double fronted Georgian style property retains a host of original features yet has been extensively modernised by the current owners to create a spacious family home with flexible living accommodation. Recently fitted Kitchen, Drawing Room, Study, Sun Room, Utility Room, Cellars. 4 large Bedrooms, Family Bathroom & Separate Shower Rm
- Substantial stone/brick built outbuildings which could be used for a host of future uses including conversion to additional living accommodation or a separate annexe (subject to planning consents). A further brick built Building is currently used as a large Games Room
- The property stands in an elevated position overlooking landscaped gardens with views towards the Welsh Border beyond. Adjacent to the property is a large patio. The property extends to approx 0.72 acre (0.29 ha)

Hindford
Whittington

£495,000



- An early nineteenth century Grade II Listed Detached Country residence together with Gardens and grounds of about 3/4 acres.
- The approach is over a sweeping driveway with a large gravelled parking and manoeuvring area to the side of the property. This property offers substantial period accommodation and has the potential to further create a most impressive family home.
- Entrance Hall, Drawing Room, Cloakroom, Utility Room, Kitchen, Dining Room, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Cellar and Large outbuilding (former dairy).

**NEW - NO CHAIN**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a Grade II Listed Mill which has been sympathetically converted to create a spacious home. The property boasts excellent views over its own Mill Pond and the countryside beyond.
- Through careful design and craftsmanship the current owners have created spacious and modern living accommodation which preserves the character of this iconic building and retains a host of original features including a working water wheel and some of the original workings.
- Outside the property has picturesque gardens set around the extensive Mill Pond which provides an idyllic backdrop for this stunning property.

NEW PRICE - NO CHAINOrchard Street
Oswestry

£77,450

- A well positioned Mid-Terrace House set within an excellent location close to the town centre.
- Large Sitting Room, Kitchen, Dining Area, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom.
- Enclosed patio area to the rear. Gas Fired Central Heating.
- Would benefit from general upgrades and presents an ideal opportunity to convert to a comfortable home.
- Would also make a quality buy to let residence.

NEW PRICE - NO CHAINKing Street
Oswestry

£103,500

- A superbly appointed and extensively refurbished End-of-Terrace Residential House that has been carefully restored by the present owners and is convenient to all facilities.
- Entrance Hall, Sitting Room/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two BedRooms, Family Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Enclosed Patio to Rear. Ideal for investment or first time purchase. EPC Rating D

NEW PRICECarregoha
Llanymynech

£229,950

- A spacious Detached Bungalow
- Set within a large plot and having outstanding views to rear
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Rm, Conservatory, Dining Rm
- Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Shower Rm/Utility, 2 BedRooms, Family Bathroom
- D/G, Oil C/H, low maintenance PVC fascias and soffit's
- Single garage, delightful gardens with ample parking

NO CHAINTwmpath Lane
Gobowen

£127,500

- A well appointed Semi-Detached House situated conveniently adjacent to the Orthopaedic Hospital
- Recently improved, Sitting Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm
- Family Bathroom, Three First Floor Excellent BedRooms. Gas C/H
- D/G, parking to the side of the property, large lawned garden to rear
- With outstanding views over agricultural fields to the rear.

LARGE GARDEN - NO CHAINBall Lane
Maesbury

£229,500

- A most delightful Detached Country Cottage set adjacent to open countryside in a picturesque location
- Sitting Room, Dining Room, New Kitchen/Breakfast Room. Three BedRooms, New Bathroom Suite
- LP Gas C/H. Double Glazing, Off road parking. Fully enclosed good size rear gardens
- The cottage has undergone electrical rewiring, modern LP Gas C/H system is installed. EPC Rating F

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLERoff Street
Oswestry

£115,000

- 21 exceptional Contemporary Apartments In The Victoria Rooms Oswestry
- Now released. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms with prices starting from £115,000
- Lift and communal garden. Parking available

Regent Court
Oswestry

£118,500

- A well appointed two bedroom first floor apartment set within the popular purpose built retirement complex of Regent Court
- The apartment has dual aspect windows and a balcony offering views across the town together with the benefit of a Living/Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, 2 BedRooms (Master with En-Suite Bathroom) and separate Shower Room.
- The complex has 24 hour resident secretary facilities together with Communal Lounges & Garden, Secure Car Parking, entrance security system, lift to all floors & guest accommodation. EPC RATING C

Sweeney Drive
Morda

£199,950

- An immaculate, spacious and well maintained Detached House
- Situated in a prime location within the Village of Morda
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Rm, Dining Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- 4 Excellent BedRooms, Family Bathrm, En-Suite Shower Rm
- D/G, Gas C/H, immaculate gardens to fore & rear
- Parking for several vehicles, single garage.

Berian Close
Weston Rhyn

£204,995

- A superbly appointed Detached Family House situated in an ideal location within walking distance of the centre of the popular village of Weston Rhyn which has a host of facilities and amenities including the Shropshire Union Canal
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Family Room, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room, Three BedRooms, Family Bathroom, Bedroom Four/Study
- Large private gardens and ample off road parking. uPVC Double Glazing & Oil central heating. EPC Rating D

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Extended cottage has far-reaching rural views

Situated within the picturesque Ceiriog Valley, 2 Graig Cottages, Pontfadog, Llangollen is a tastefully extended character cottage in an elevated position with fine views to the front.

The semi-detached property is for sale through Richmond Harvey for offers around £139,950. It has a porch, entrance hall, dining room, kitchen with a pantry, master bedroom (ensuite), bathroom, snug/through room (former bedroom two), living room, sun terrace, garage, terraced gardens and oil-fired central heating.

For further information contact Richmond Harvey on 01691 654222 or visit www.richmondharvey.com



Three-bedroom family semi on the market with no chain

In a quiet cul-de-sac position, 9 Malthouse Close, Whittington, near Oswestry, is a smartly appointed three-bedroom semi-detached house.

It is for sale through JJ Dell & Co at £154,950 with no chain.

There is an entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, garage converted into a well equipped office, car parking space and gardens.

For more information call JJ Dell on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk



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OSWESTRY



£159,950

- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Entrance Hall
- Cloakroom
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathrooms
- Three Bedrooms
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Garage and ample parking
- EPC Band D
- JD708

OSWESTRY



£148,950

- Modern Detached Bungalow
- GFCH & D/G
- Lounge
- Two BedRooms
- Garage And Parking
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Cul De Sac Location
- EPC Band - JJD814

DAYWELL, GOBOWEN.



£115,000

- Well Appointed Victorian Two Bed. Cottage
- Solid Fuel & Electric C/H
- upvc D/Glazing
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two Good Sized Bedrooms
- Store Shed
- Car Parking
- Rural Location
- EPC Band F
- JD804

NR. OSWESTRY.



£239,950

- Attractive And Well Appointed Three Bedroomed Detached House.
- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Two Reception Rooms
- Utility
- Three Bedrooms
- Separate WC
- Detached Garage
- Fine Gardens
- Outskirts Of Oswestry
- EPC Band D
- JD779

WHITTINGTON



£154,950

- Three Bed. Semi-Det.House
- G/F C/H, D/G
- Kitchen And Lounge
- Garage Converted To Well Equipped Office
- Ample Car Parking
- Front And Rear Lawned Gardens
- Modern Residential Development
- EPC Band C
- JD795

GOBOWEN



£210,000

- Detached three bedrommed split level house
- G/F C/H, D/G
- Impressive Lounge
- Dining room
- Breakfast kitchen & utility
- Garage & car parking
- Attractive patio garden
- Elevated position overlooking Village
- EPC Band D
- JD781

LLYNCLYS, NR. OSWESTRY



£250,000

- UPVC D/G Electric Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Three Double Beds
- En-Suite Dressing Area
- Car Port and Garage
- Caravan Standing
- Views To Rodney's Pillar
- EPC Band E
- JD725

LLYNCLYS



£499,950

- Attractive Five Bedrommed Country House Overlooking the Shropshire Plain
- Two reception Rooms
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Laundry And Utility
- Cloakroom
- Bathroom And En-Suites
- Separate Pony Paddock
- Large Workshop
- EPC Band E
- JD775/148663

OSWESTRY



£349,950

- Detached three bedrommed family house in sought after residential area
- G/F C/H, D/G
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen & Utility
- Dining Room
- Sitting Room & Lounge
- Dressing Room
- Large Garage
- Attractive Gardens
- EPC Band D
- JD788

OSWESTRY



£85,000

- Gas Fired Heating
- Entrance Hall
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- Sitting Room
- Kitchen
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- Three Bedrooms
- Front Garden
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- EPC Band E
- JD809

LLANYMYNECH



£750,000

- Spacious Detached Bungalow
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- JD811

OSWESTRY - TO LET



£465

- Two Bed. Semi-Det. House
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- GFCH & DG
- Lounge
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Two Beds.
- Parking for two vehicles
- Front and rear gardens
- JD026

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CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB AWARDS 2013

Firms count down to big night

THE clock is ticking and businesses are counting down to the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards presentation night.

That's when the best of the area's businesses learn who has won the major honours in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards for 2013.

The event is being held by the Chronicle in association with Oswestry Chamber of Commerce and will be hosted by The Lion Quays Resort on Wednesday, May 1.

The Chronicle is bringing together businesses from our circulation area across Oswestry, Welshpool and the surrounding towns and villages to showcase all that is good about the region.

We have teamed up with the resort and the chamber to celebrate the rich resource of skills and people who thrive and prosper in today's challenging marketplace.

Standard

Whether employing a handful of staff or a workforce of hundreds; whether turning over thousands of pounds or millions of pounds; operating in a new service sector or a long established area of manufacturing, you came forward in numbers to tell us how good you were.

Scores of companies and individuals vied for places in this year's final and our panel of independent judges were impressed by the standard of entries.

Now all the lucky finalists, together with our sponsors and other representatives from the business community, will enjoy hospitality at the Lion Quays Resort when the winners will be announced and nine major awards presented.

Graham Breeze, The Chronicle's associate editor, said he was delighted that the resort had agreed to host the event and that the Chamber of Commerce was involved for the second year running.

"The Chronicle celebrated its second birthday in March and this partnership has emphasised the regard in which the newspaper is held by the business community," he said.

"Our standing is reflected in the fantastic number of entries we received from the business community for our awards scheme."

"The economic climate may not be good but many businesses in our circulation area are



Winners celebrate at last year's presentation night at the Lion Quays Resort.

thriving through innovation and determination and many have outstanding success stories to tell.

"Our gratitude goes to the owners and staff at the fabulous Lion Quays Resort for agreeing to host the annual awards ceremony again. We are delighted to be partnering with the Chamber of Commerce and the resort," added Mt Breeze.

"We are also indebted to our sponsors, Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, The Lion Quays, Turner Peachey Accountants, The Pickstock Group, The Charlotte Harty Foundation,

Oswestry, Chamber of Commerce, Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors and Morris Cook Chartered Accountants."

Heather Noble, chairman of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce, said: "The chamber is once again delighted to be supporting the Chronicle Business Awards.

"This annual event provides a fantastic platform for all us to celebrate some of the great business achievements that can be found right on our doorstep.

"There can be no doubt as to the calibre of businesses that exist in the region and it

makes absolute sense that we should celebrate those who have taken the time to enter the awards this year. Stiff competition, as always, means that not everyone can be a winner but we hope that everyone involved will take some benefit from the whole process. It is often a great chance to take a step back from your business and consider all of the things in which you excel. We would like to wish good luck to everyone who has made it to the final stages and look forward to celebrating with you on 1st May at The Lion Quays.

"Whatever the final outcome, please do take

time to celebrate your achievement in coming this far and, perhaps more importantly, keep doing your bit for the local economy. It has fantastic impact on everyone around you."

Lyn Pearson, marketing and events manager at The Lion Quays, said: "We are pleased to be able to support and host the Chronicle Business Awards."

"This will be Oswestry's second major business awards event and holding it at The Lion Quays gives us the opportunity to showcase the outstanding facilities that we have available."

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Join Lion Quays Spa for an evening of celebration
Thursday, 9th May, 5pm – 8pm

Spaces are limited for this event, please register online now:
www.lionquays.com/celebratespa or call our Spa Team directly 01691 684300 [opt 3].

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23 shortlisted for prizes in 2013 Business Awards



The Osfest team, from left, Carly Jackson, Sue Furse, Charlotte Gwynne, Emily Bajcer and Lucy Hamelet at last year's event.

TWENTY companies and three individuals have been shortlisted for awards in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards 2013.

An independent panel of judges sat to determine the finalists from the scores of entries received from across the Chronicle's circulation area. All the finalists will now attend the glittering dinner and presentation night when the winners will be announced.

The shortlisted companies are:

Independent Retailer of the Year
Sponsored by Oswestry Chamber of Commerce:

Finalists:
BBR Opticians Ltd,
Booka Bookshop,
Honeysuckle Wholefoods Co-operative

Best Online Business
Sponsored by Morris Cook Chartered Accountants

Finalists:
GWR Fasteners Ltd,
Siop Cwlm,
The Gift Experience

Best Small Business
Sponsored by Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors

Finalists:
Elegant Finishing Touches,
GWR Fasteners Ltd
Stonehouse Brewery Ltd

Young Business Entrepreneur
Sponsored by The Charlotte Harty Foundation

Finalists:
Gemma Manning-Bentley of Gemmipop Designs, Oswestry

Matthew Price of Price Electrical Ltd of Llanymynech
Sarah Rowlands of Purebeauty, Welshpool.

Young Business of the Year

Sponsored by Turner Peachey Accountants

Finalists:
Elegant Finishing Touches
GWR Fasteners Limited
Purebeauty Ltd

Customer Service

Sponsored by Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors

Finalists:
Agritel Ltd
BBR Opticians
Stonehouse Brewery Ltd

Innovation Award

Sponsored by The Pickstock Group

Finalists:
Derwas of Welshpool
Parry & Evans, Welshpool.

Business of the Year

Sponsored by the Oswestry & Border Chronicle

Finalists:
Applewold Wealth Management
Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors
The Gift Experience

Community Champion

Sponsored by Lion Quays Waterside Resort

Finalists:
British Iron Work Centre
Cambrian Heritage Railways

RJAH Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation Trust

purebeauty

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**CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB
AWARDS 2013**

The awards finalists at a glance

RJAH ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL TRUST

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJAH) is a leading orthopaedic centre of excellence. The specialist orthopaedic hospital has a reputation for innovation and the Trust provides a comprehensive range of musculoskeletal (bone, joint and tissue) surgical, medical and rehabilitation services, locally, regionally and nationally.

The Orthopaedic hospital has been in existence as an independent hospital since 1900. It was taken into the NHS in 1948 and achieved NHS Trust status in 1994. The hospital was awarded NHS Foundation Trust status in August 2011.

CAMBRIAN HERITAGE RAILWAYS

The Cambrian Heritage Railways is a heritage railway company, trust and society based at Oswestry.

Formed after the 2009 merger of the Cambrian Railways Society and the Cambrian Railways Trust, it aims to reinstate the infrastructure required to operate trains from Gobowen to Llynelys Junction and to Blodwel.

The project is expected to create 50 new jobs for Oswestry as part of the reconstruction and up to 100 full time jobs on completion as well as attracting up to 55,000 tourists every year.

BRITISH IRON WORKS CENTRE

The British Iron Works Centre in Oswestry demonstrates a passion for designing and redesigning fabulous new products, and bringing back to life many of the old and wonderful items of iron artwork that are no longer seen today.

The company has delved deeply to collect and recreate a huge range of stunning historical items, which would have been lost forever.

Over the years the centre has assisted many other companies and organisations, by providing them with artefacts, product and props.



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WINNERS 2012
CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

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PURE BEAUTY

Pure Beauty is a modern Organic Beauty salon at Welshpool developed by Sarah Rowlands based on 10 years of knowledge from working in the beauty industry.

The business offers customers some of the best natural products in the industry today with a range of Organic facials designed to improve every skin condition.

All products are freshly prepared for each client promoting a completely active and fresh experience every time.

Clients can also hire the salon on special occasions such as hen parties, birthdays, baby showers etc.

GWR FASTENERS

GWR Fasteners Limited, a multi-award winning company, was started in 2009 and is a distributor of metric and imperial fasteners to worldwide destinations.

GWR is also a manufacturer of special fasteners and precision components supplying other fastening and engineering companies. GWR is the only company in the UK that offers a unique service – GWR Colourfast – coloured stainless fasteners available in black, blue, red, copper and brass. GWR Fasteners Limited also offer the relatively rare service of cutting threaded bar to meet customers' needs.

ELEGANT FINISHING TOUCHES

Elegant Finishing Touches of Oswestry offer a wide range of services, including wedding and event planning.

Elegant Finishing Touches chair cover hire and chair sash hire for weddings and special events is focused on providing a high quality service and complete customer satisfaction.

The company provides bespoke chair cover and sash hire to all venue locations throughout Shropshire, Cheshire and across the UK, and can offer either a set-up service or delivery and collection service. Photo booths, chocolate fountains and popcorn machines are also available.

SIOP CWLWM

Siop Cwlwm was established in July 2010 and is owned and run by mother and daughter team Linda and Lowri Roberts.

They sell a wide variety of Welsh books, music, greeting cards, gifts and homewares, and clothes in Oswestry indoor market (Powis Hall) every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, or from their on-line shop.

Items, especially those produced by local designers, producers and craftspeople, are carefully selected.

Lowri is also a professional freelance Welsh translator, running the Trosi Tan translation business.

HONEYSUCKLE WHOLEFOODS CO-OPERATIVE

Established in July 1978, Honeysuckle Wholefoods Co-operative has become Shropshire and the Borders' leading independent retailer of vegetarian, natural and organic foods.

Honeysuckle celebrated 25 years as a workers' co-operative in 2002 and are proud to be one of the most successful examples of a co-operative working environment.

Operating strict buying policies the co-operative has an increasing portfolio of organic, gluten free and fairly traded products and promote wholesome and healthy eating and do not stock products with harmful additives or GMOs.

They work closely with local growers and also receive deliveries of imported and domestic produce and operate a comprehensive environmental policy, from using low energy light bulbs and renewable electricity, through to recycling waste cardboard, plastic, glass and compost.

Booka Bookshop is an independent bookshop and cafe in Oswestry with a great selection of books, distinctive cards and gifts, and a cafe selling coffee, teas and delicious homemade cakes.

The book-buying experience has never

been so good and Booka host a regular programme of author talks and signings, organise themed events, run book clubs and work with schools and the local library.

Booka also operate an on-line shop with a hand-picked selection of great books and distinctive gifts themed to help customers find just what you're looking for.

GEMMA MANNING-BENTLEY

Gemma Manning-Bentley of Gemmipom Designs is an applied art graduate, specialising in jewellery and metalwork, with a love of all things crafty. Her shop can be found in Oswestry Indoor Market, and you can also find me in

The jewellery is produced in her workshop, Shropshire and she makes laser cut jewellery in any colour that you might fancy which is also available to purchase on-line.

SARAH ROWLANDS

Sarah Rowlands formed Pure Beauty – a modern organic beauty saloon – in 2008 based on 10 years of knowledge from working in the beauty industry.

After competing in the Miss Earth Wales competition in August 2008, she learnt a lot about the beauty industry and the harmful effects it can have on health and the environment.

Following extensive research she wanted to offer customers some of the best natural products in the industry today and sells a range of organic products.

MATTHEW PRICE

Matthew Price established Priced Electrical of Llandrindod in 2011.

He formed close relationships with other young electricians and tradespeople and encouraged everyone to take on apprentices.

Working together as a team, sharing responsibilities and profits, the group members are all self-employed and Matthew now offers training course packages too.

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**CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB
AWARDS 2013**

All the fun from last year's Business



Shropshire Star advertising director Peter Guy announces the winners.



Guest speaker Malcolm Walker with Chronicle associate editor Graham Breeze.



From Pure Beauty in Welshpool, from left, Jess Kinsey, Sarah Rowlands, Cheryl Ball and Kirsty Fuller.



Shane and Alison Parr, from the Stonehouse Brewery.



From BBR Opticians, from left, Kelly Leighton, Helen Tudor, Ruth Grellier, Kate Roberts and Elaine Baker.



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**CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB
AWARDS 2013**

Awards ceremony is captured on camera



Nick Dulson from the Lion Quays Resort, presents the Customer Service Award to Jenny Pervin, Trevor Pervin, Robyn Willey, Holly Liversage and Katy Yates of The Gift Experience.



Ian Glenister from Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, presents the Best Small Business Award to the Stonehouse Brewery team of Shane Parr, Oliver Morgan, Kyle Maxfield, Josh Wood, John Young, Innes Reid and Alison Parr.



Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business of the Year winners were Northern Industrial Battery Service of Four Crosses From left, Zoe Farry, June Yapp, guest speaker Malcolm Walker, and Robert Gilliard.



Jon Ollier from Turner Peachy presents the Innovation award to the team from GWR Fasteners, Gary Robinson, Jude Robinson, Rhian Robinson, Bill Robinson and Jaqui Reynolds.



Andrew Clark from Morris Cook, hands the Green Business Award to Fragile Planet's Toby Gray, Mary Gray, Mike Lambourne, Phil Vaughan, Dave McVay and Todd Miller.



Paul Baker from Arthurs of Oswestry presents the Best Use of Digital Technology Award to The Gift Experience of Ellesmere's Steve Yates, Trevor Pervin, Jenny Pervin, Brian Lees and Katy Yates.

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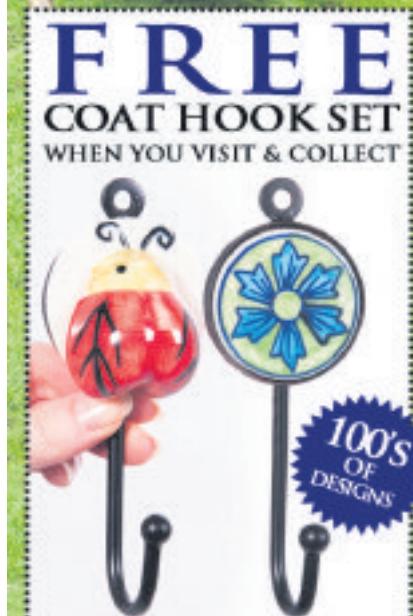
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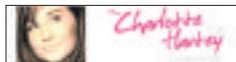
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**CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB
AWARDS 2013**

Helping others in her memory



by Graham Breeze

THE Charlotte Hartey Foundation was set up by Charlotte's family in her memory after she died tragically at the age of 16 on July 31, 2009, due to complications arising from having been misdiagnosed of suffering from swine flu.

The Business Development Programme provides money and support to help young people.

Practical

If you have a business idea, and are aged 16-25, the Business Development Programme could be for you.

The scheme offers practical and financial support to the young people who need it most when starting up in business, helping develop key skills, confidence and motivation and enabling young people to fulfil their business dreams and potential.

The scheme supports young people to work out if their business ideas are viable and whether self-employment is right for them.

Depending on the outcome of this process, the programme can then offer financial support to start a business or secure goals in employment, education or training.

Applications for start-up funding



Guests pictured at a fundraising gala dinner in aid of the Charlotte Hartey Foundation which is supported wholly by generous public donations and fund raising activities.

are assessed in relation to a number of factors including perceived risk, business viability and individual need.

The registered foundation pro-

vides local financial resources in the form of gifts to youth clubs, schools and organisations and fund structured, purposeful projects and ventures, giving youths the

opportunity of reaching their full potential. The Charlotte Hartey Foundation is supported wholly by generous public donations and fund raising activities.



Many organisations in the Oswestry area have benefitted in funding from the Charlotte Hartey Foundation. Here, Karl Hartey is seen presenting a cheque from the foundation to Michelle Hart of the Kingswell Community Centre in Oswestry.



Mike Lade of Osyteers volunteer group is seen receiving a cheque from Karl Hartey.

Charlotte's brother will attend event

Tristan Hartey will be the guest speaker at the Business Awards



TRISTAN Hartey of the Charlotte Hartey Foundation will be the guest speaker at the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards presentation night.

Mr Hartey, 22, a wealth manager at Applewood Associates and brother of the late Charlotte, will speak at the function at Lion Quays Resort on May 1.

The Charlotte Hartey Foundation provides funding to start-up businesses, youth clubs, schools and organisations.

The foundation was set up by Charlotte's family in her memory after she died tragically at the age of 16 in July, 2009 after being misdiagnosed with swine flu.

"We offer practical and financial support to the young people who need it most when starting up in business," said Mr Hartey.

"We help develop key skills, confidence and motivation, enabling young people to fulfil their business dreams and potential."

"We support young people aged 16 to 25 to work out if their business ideas are viable and whether self-employment is right for them."

"Depending on the outcome of this process, the programme can then offer financial support to start a business or secure goals in employment, education or training."

CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB AWARDS 2013

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce is once again delighted to be sponsoring the Chronicle Business Awards.

It's an excellent platform to celebrate the great business achievements right on our doorstep.

Good luck to everyone who has made it to the final stages!



www.oswestrychamber.org.uk



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Chamber of Commerce backs Chronicle awards

by Graham Breeze

THE Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards are once again being held in association with Oswestry Chamber of Commerce.

And the chamber has a new chairman with Heather Noble, of Salt Solutions in Gobowen, taking over the reins from Martin Anderson.

Mrs Noble, who is as enthusiastic about the partnership between the Chronicle as the chamber's previous leader, said that she hoped to use her position to carry on 'strengthening and broadening the reach of Oswestry'. She said the chamber was once again delighted to be supporting the Chronicle Business Awards.

"This annual event provides a fantastic platform for all us to celebrate some of the great business achievements that can be found right on our doorstep."

"There can be no doubt as to the calibre of businesses that exist in the region and it makes absolute sense that we should celebrate those who have taken the time to enter the awards this year."

"Stiff competition, as always, means that not everyone can be a winner but we hope that everyone involved will take some benefit from the whole process. It is often a great chance to take a step back from your business and consider all of the things in which you excel. We would like to wish good luck to everyone who has made it to the final stages and look forward to celebrating with you on May 1 at The Lion Quays."

"Whatever the final outcome, please do take time to celebrate your achievement in coming this far and, perhaps more importantly, keep doing your bit for the local economy."



Heather Noble, the new chairman of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce.

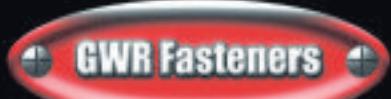
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Neu dewch i Farchnad Croesoswallt - dydd Mercher, Gwener a Sadwrn 8.30am - 3.45pm

Or visit Oswestry Market - Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 8.30am - 3.45pm

Llawn Cyntaf, Neuadd Powis, Pen Beili, Croesoswallt, Sir Amwythig, SY11 1PZ

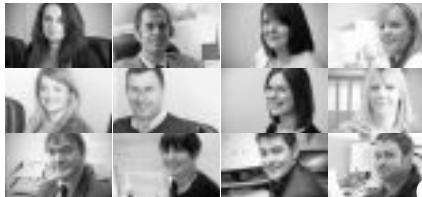
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**CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB
AWARDS 2013**


The indoor pool at the Lion Quays Resort.



Enjoy a dessert from the extensive menu.



Sunday lunches are a speciality at Lion Quays Country Club.

Impressive venue to host awards

THERE COULD be no better venue to host the second Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards, held in association with Oswestry Chamber of Commerce, than at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort.

Boasting luxurious individually-designed bedrooms, a five-star country club and award winning spa the Lion Quays is a renowned hotel and wedding venue on the Shropshire/North Wales border alongside the Llangollen Canal.

What sets Lion Quays spa apart? It has the UK's first Snow Cave, the UK's first Decleor Spa Shop and a dedicated team of professionals, offering a diverse range of treatments to name a few reasons why Lion Quays Spa is different.

Relaxation

The new-generation thermal suite, with snow cave, experience showers and ice bucket, hydrotherapy Jacuzzi pool, starlit livello steam room and saunas offers guests a unique spa journey enjoying both warm and cold experiences.

Guests also have a choice of relaxation lounges, including an outdoor terrace overlooking the surrounding countryside, with complimentary fruit, herbal teas and water available throughout the day.

Spa Lounge is an exclusive area for guests only and offers a variety of drinks and nibbles, from morning snacks to champagne, afternoon teas and healthy smoothies to cocktails.

What else does the resort offer? Well imagine a choice of restaurants – from a family-friendly traditional waterside restaurant & bar, to an intimate contemporary brasserie with outside dining terrace.

The Waterside bar and restaurant serves great British and European classics with a modern twist.

Choose from slow cooked pork belly, poached fillet of sole, fillet steak and desserts to tempt all.

While Nico's Brasserie offers a more



The impressive frontage to the Lion Quays Spa.

relaxed dining experience, with modern international dishes as well as a selection of lighter options.

Join the club – Lion Quays Country Club is different, offering an exclusive range of lifestyle and fitness options enabling you to get the most from your leisure and relaxation time.

There's a mix of world class facilities

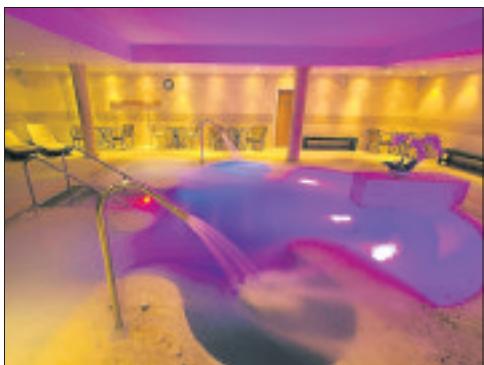
with a team of experts on hand to provide you with inspiration, motivation and fitness plans to suit your own personal goals.

Members have been sending in their inspirational stories, sharing their personal triumphs.

It seems the Country Club Membership is much more than a simple gym

membership, it's more a lifestyle! Visit www.lionquays.com/inspirationalclub-members and find your inspiration.

Whether you're going to Lion Quays to celebrate your wedding, dine al fresco in our choice of restaurants, attending a conference, to work out in the gym, visit the country club or relax in the spa, you'll be glad you did.



Inside the Thermal Suite at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort.



The Lion Quays Waterside Resort on the Llangollen Canal.

seeing is believing

There's never been a better time to sample the delights of the Lion Quays Country Club ... it's so much more than a Gym Membership ... it's a Lifestyle!

Arrive to get fit...
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Four-bedroom family house boasts a multi-fuel burner

AN attractive four-bedroom detached home has come on to the market with Woodhead Estates. Shaftesbury, Four Crosses, is priced at offers around £239,500 with no chain.

The downstairs accommodation comprises an entrance hall, living room with fireplace and multi-fuel burner, spacious conservatory, dining room, kitchen/diner with pantry, inner hallway, utility, two bedrooms and a shower room. Upstairs are two further bedrooms and a bathroom. There are gardens to front and rear along with driveway parking.

For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com



Flexible bungalow accommodation near centre of village

Number 11 Berwyn Drive, St. Martins, Oswestry is a spacious and well appointed two/three bedroom detached dormer bungalow with flexible living accommodation, close to the centre of the village. It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson priced at £189,995.

It has a kitchen, living room, ground floor bathroom, dining room (could be used as a bedroom), two further spacious first floor bedrooms, good sized garden, garaging, off-road parking, double glazing, uPVC gutters and fascia boards and gas central heating.

For details contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



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6 Cae Robert, Meifod



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- Mid-Terrace 3 Bed House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Electric Heating. Double Glazing
- Separate Garage
- Enc rear garden
- First Time Buy/Investment Opportunity
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 66

£125,000



1 Ash Villas, Old Chirk Road, Gobowen

£105,000

- Semi detached house in need of modernisation
- 2 Receptions, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom
- On-site parking to the fore, Rear lawned garden
- Rear porch and cloakroom
- Close to the local village amenities
- Energy Efficiency Rating = TBC

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

3 Minafon, Pontrobert



- Modern 3 Bed Mid Terrace House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining, Bathroom
- Electric Heating. D/Glazed, Cavity wall & loft insulated
- Front lawn. Rear garden
- River Vyrnwy to front with fishing rights
- Energy Performance Rating = 43

£130,000

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



5 Glanyrafon, Berriew

£178,000

- Spacious and Extended 3 Bed Semi-Detached House
- 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Solid Fuel & Electric Heating (where stated)
- D/Glazed. Att Double Garage. Ample Parking
- Lawn & patio. Would benefit from modern refitting
- Energy Performance Rating = 43

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



1 Cil Common, Berriew, Welshpool

£179,950

- Extended Semi-Detached Country Cottage
- Sitting Room, Kitchen, Bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms, Sep.W.C. Oil Fired Heating via Stanley cooker
- Spacious lawn to front. Off road parking, Outhouses.
- Rural Surrounds, Approx 1 mile from Berriew Village
- Energy Performance Rating = 35

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



Coed Issa, Penrhos, Llanymynech

£200,000

- A Detached 3 Bed Bungalow in a rural location
- Spacious Sitting/Dining Room with fireplace
- Kitchen/Breakfast, Utility, Shower Room, Bathroom
- Double Garage. Oil Central Heating. Double Glazed
- Good sized plot incorporating lawn & shrubs
- In Need of Modern Upgrading & Refitting
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 36

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



Camrose, Four Crosses, Llanymynech

£210,000

- Det 3 Bed Village Bungalow within spacious plot
- Sitting and Dining Rooms, Kitchen, Bathroom
- Oil Fired Heating, Double Glazed
- Attached Garage. Several outbuildings
- Spacious rear garden backing on to farmland
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 58

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



Y Llwybr Arian, Penybontfawr

£239,950

- Det 4 Bed Dormer Bungalow, Refurbished & Extended
- Kitchen/Dining, Sitting Room, Utility
- Two Ground Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Two First Floor Bedrooms with En-suites
- Oil Fired Heating, Double Glazed
- Ample Garden Grounds. Centre of village location
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 70

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Whittington 6 BED CHARACTER PROPERTY 4 RECEPTION ROOMS STUDY, CELLAR & UTILITY GAS CENTRAL HEATING OIRO £559,950	THE MOUNT 4 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS NO CHAIN EPC RATING E	Glyn Ceirio 4 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS PERIOD FEATURES EPC RATING E	COED-Y-GLYN 4 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS PERIOD FEATURES EPC RATING E	Treffach Oswestry 5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 4 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING C	BUMBLE OAK 4/5 BED DET FAMILY HOME 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	Oswestry 4 BED DET FAMILY HOME 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	9 OAKHURST AVENUE KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM EPC RATING D	Arddleen 4 BED DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS DOUBLE GARAGE EPC RATING D	Rock Cottage 4 BED DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D	Trefonen 4 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D	GLEDHILL 4 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D
NEW	NEW	Oswestry 4 BED DET DORMER BUNGALOW 2 RECEPTION ROOMS 2 ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING D	50 CABIN LANE 4/5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	10 WILFRED OWEN AVENUE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	Queens Head 5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	TRALEE HOUSE 5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	Selatby 2 BED CONVERTED CHAPEL NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Chapel House 2 BED CONVERTED CHAPEL NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Llanymynech 2 BED DET BUNGALOW TWO RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING E	BADGERS BEND 2 BED DET BUNGALOW TWO RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING E
Oswestry 4 BED DET DORMER BUNGALOW 2 RECEPTION ROOMS 2 ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING D	50 CABIN LANE 4/5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	10 WILFRED OWEN AVENUE NO CHAIN ENSUITE BEDROOMS EPC RATING C	Queens Head 5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	TRALEE HOUSE 5 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	Selatby 2 BED CONVERTED CHAPEL NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Chapel House 2 BED CONVERTED CHAPEL NO CHAIN 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Llanymynech 2 BED DET BUNGALOW TWO RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING E	BADGERS BEND 2 BED DET BUNGALOW TWO RECEPTION ROOMS CONSERVATORY EPC RATING E	Oswestry 3/4 DET DORMER BUNGALOW 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E PVC DOUBLE GLAZING	37 HAMPTON ROAD 3/4 DET DORMER BUNGALOW 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
NEW	NEW	Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	57 APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS 5/6 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM £189,950	Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING C	4 GLENTWORTH RISE 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING C	Morda 3/4 BED DET BUNGALOW NO CHAIN INTEGRAL GARAGE EPC RATING F	THE CEDARS 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	Oswestry 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	4 MANDIR CLOSE 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS DOWNTAIRS WC EPC RATING D	18 PARK STREET 3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS DOWNTAIRS WC EPC RATING D
Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	1 PEVEREL DRIVE 4 BED DET BUNGALOW NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D	Oswestry 5/6 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM £189,950	57 APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS 5/6 BED DET HOUSE 3 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM £189,950	Oswestry 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING C	4 GLENTWORTH RISE 4 BED DET HOUSE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING C	Morda 3/4 BED DET BUNGALOW NO CHAIN INTEGRAL GARAGE EPC RATING F	THE CEDARS 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	Oswestry 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	4 MANDIR CLOSE 3 BED TOWNHOUSE KITCHEN/DINER 3 STOREY EPC RATING B	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS DOWNTAIRS WC EPC RATING D	18 PARK STREET 3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS DOWNTAIRS WC EPC RATING D
NEW	NEW BUILD	Oswestry 2 1/2 BED END TOWNHOUSE NO CHAIN EPC RATING B OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE £139,950	1 CAMBRIAN MEWS 2 1/2 BED END TOWNHOUSE NO CHAIN EPC RATING B OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE £139,950	Oswestry FOUR BED MID TERRACE NO CHAIN TWO RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	68 YORK STREET FOUR BED MID TERRACE NO CHAIN TWO RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS	61 LLWYN ROAD 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING B EN-SUITE	25 AVONDALE 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE KITCHEN/DINER EN-SUITE EPC RATING B	Oswestry 2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE NO CHAIN CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D	17 ASCOT ROAD 2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE NO CHAIN CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D
Oswestry 4 BED DET BUNGALOW LIVING ROOM/DINER NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN EPC RATING D	4 BLACKFRIARS 3 BED BUNGALOW LIVING ROOM/DINER NEWLY FITTED KITCHEN EPC RATING D	Oswestry 2 1/2 BED END TOWNHOUSE NO CHAIN EPC RATING B OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE £139,950	1 CAMBRIAN MEWS 2 1/2 BED END TOWNHOUSE NO CHAIN EPC RATING B OPEN PLAN LIVING SPACE £139,950	Oswestry FOUR BED MID TERRACE NO CHAIN TWO RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	68 YORK STREET FOUR BED MID TERRACE NO CHAIN TWO RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS	61 LLWYN ROAD 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING D 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS	Oswestry 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING B EN-SUITE	25 AVONDALE 3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE KITCHEN/DINER EN-SUITE EPC RATING B	Oswestry 2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE NO CHAIN CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D	17 ASCOT ROAD 2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE NO CHAIN CONSERVATORY EPC RATING D
NEW	NEW	Pant 2 BED DET BUNGALOW NO CHAIN IN NEED OF MODERNISATION EPC RATING F OFFERS OVER £114,950	WOODSIDE 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	2 LLWYN ROAD 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry FLAT 2 OSWALD'S COURT 2 BED APARTMENT GROUND FLOOR NO CHAIN EPC RATING C	FLAT 2 OSWALD'S COURT 2 BED APARTMENT GROUND FLOOR NO CHAIN EPC RATING C	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE GAS CENTRAL HEATING PVC DOUBLE GLAZING EPC RATING D	28 ERW WEN 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D	14 KING STREET 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D
Oswestry 2 BED MID TERRACE HOUSE VILLAGE LOCATION KITCHEN/ DINER EPC RATING C	91 APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS 2 BED MID TERRACE HOUSE VILLAGE LOCATION KITCHEN/ DINER EPC RATING C	Pant 2 BED DET BUNGALOW NO CHAIN IN NEED OF MODERNISATION EPC RATING F OFFERS OVER £114,950	WOODSIDE 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	2 LLWYN ROAD 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN 2 RECEPTION ROOMS EPC RATING E	Oswestry FLAT 2 OSWALD'S COURT 2 BED APARTMENT GROUND FLOOR NO CHAIN EPC RATING C	FLAT 2 OSWALD'S COURT 2 BED APARTMENT GROUND FLOOR NO CHAIN EPC RATING C	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE GAS CENTRAL HEATING PVC DOUBLE GLAZING EPC RATING D	28 ERW WEN 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D	Oswestry 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D	14 KING STREET 2 BED END TERRACE NO CHAIN LIVING/DINING ROOM EPC RATING D
TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET	TO LET
Oswestry 3 BED TOWNHOUSE ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN ALLOCATED PARKING EPC RATING F PCM £595	2 CAMBRIAN MEWS 3 BED TOWNHOUSE TOWN LOCATION GAS CENTRAL HEATING EPC RATING C PCM £575	Oswestry 3 BED TOWNHOUSE TOWN LOCATION GAS CENTRAL HEATING EPC RATING C PCM £575	6 WILLOW MEWS 3 BED TOWNHOUSE TOWN LOCATION GAS CENTRAL HEATING EPC RATING C PCM £575	Whittington 3 BED DET BUNG 2 RECEPTION ROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING EPC RATING F PCM £575	7 BOOT STREET 3 BED DET BUNG 2 RECEPTION ROOMS GAS CENTRAL HEATING EPC RATING F PCM £575	Trefonen Oswestry 3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE KITCHEN/ DINER OFF ROAD PARKING EPC RATING C PCM £525	42 SCHOOL LANE 3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE KITCHEN/ DINER OFF ROAD PARKING EPC RATING C PCM £525	Morda Oswestry 3 BED MEWS HOUSE KITCHEN/ DINER ALLOCATED PARKING LOCAL AMENITIES PETS CONSIDERED PCM £495	2 MILARS FIELD 3 BED MEWS HOUSE KITCHEN/ DINER ALLOCATED PARKING LOCAL AMENITIES PETS CONSIDERED PCM £495	West Felton Nr Oswestry 2 BEDROOM UNFURNISHED TERRACED HOUSE ALLOCATED PARKING LOCAL AMENITIES PETS CONSIDERED PCM £450	19 SCHOOL ROAD 2 BEDROOM UNFURNISHED TERRACED HOUSE ALLOCATED PARKING LOCAL AMENITIES PETS CONSIDERED PCM £450

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Near Llansantffraid



This delightful Two Bedroom Detached Cottage is set in a picturesque rural location, with countryside views from all aspects and within a short drive from the popular Welsh Border Village of Llansantffraid with all amenities. This Cottage benefits from oil fired central heating and partial double glazing. Internal accommodation briefly comprises, Sitting Room with Log Burner, Kitchen, Reception Hall, Sep W.C., Bathroom and Two Bedrooms. (EPC Rating F)

£189,950

St Martins



A very well presented 4 bedrooned detached bungalow. Approached via a gravelled driveway through farmstyle gates set back from the road. Ent hall, Reception hall, Lounge, Breakfast kitchen, utility room, family bathroom, bedroom one, bedroom two, first floor landing, bedroom three and four, cloaks.w.c., Double garage/workshop. Viewing recommended (EPC Rating D)

£244,995

Oswestry



A character two bedroom end terrace house which has recently undergone improvements by the current owners. This property is conveniently placed for local town amenities. The property briefly comprises Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Rear Porch, First Floor Landing, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Courtyard Gardens. NO CHAIN. Viewing highly recommended. (EPC Rating E)

£115,950

WEST FELTON



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£335,000

MEIFOD



EPC Rating F

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Oswestry



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Oswestry



A 3 bed detached property situated on the outskirts of Oswestry yet within walking distance of the Town Centre and primary school. Briefly comprising, 3 bedrooms, master with en-suite, family bathroom, downstairs Cloaks.W.C., Living Room, Kitchen, Dining Room and benefitting from a Conservatory with enclosed gardens to the rear. Off road parking and gardens to the front. NO CHAIN (EPC Rating D)

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GIG GUIDE

01691 668094

Rising star due to play the Ironworks

GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts

MUSIC fans are in for a treat this week as the Ironworks plays host to Gregory S. Davies, a rising star of the Shropshire music scene.

With support from his backing band, he plays an intriguing mix of gypsy jazz, blues and boogie woogie, with a healthy dose of Americana thrown in for good measure.

Recently his single Rat-Trap was featured on BBC Radio Shropshire as 'Song of the Month' for March.

Apart from singer-songwriter Gregory S. Davies, the band also includes Sam Dougherty on drums, John Griffith on bass, Dan Roberts on guitar, and Melissa Timmis on violin.

Gregory has just released a 14-track album titled 'Santiago L.P.', which is available as a digital download for £3 or as a CD with accompanying sleeve artwork and case for £5, and is available from the bands website.

The gig will also feature support from the excellent Little Red Bird and Sam Johnson. For those of you who haven't heard of Little Red Bird, they play a combination of bluegrass, old timey music and Americana. The duo consists of Louisa Jones on vocals and Matt Morris handling vocals, guitar and banjo. You can expect beautiful harmonies and superb musicianship,



The Gregory S Davies Band.

as well as a friendly chat between songs. The gig starts at 8pm with entry costing £3.

If you're looking for something to do tonight the Ironworks will be holding the Osfest Battle of the Bands.

The event will see local groups compete for a place at this year's Osfest.

Doors open at 6pm and the show kicks off at 7.30pm. Entry is free.

The Lowefield Inn, Marton, will be featuring live music from Geoff Rodgers on Friday night.

Geoff is a singer-songwriter who plays a mixture of self-penned songs and covers by the likes of Bob Dylan and Creedence Clearwater Revival, all of which are accompanied by his superb fingerstyle playing. A self-described 'human jukebox', Geoff can play a vast array of different material

from all sorts of genres, ranging from classic tracks to contemporary hits. The gig starts at 8pm and is free entry.

In Welshpool on Friday night, After Dark will be performing at the Royal Oak. Entry is free and starts at 9pm.

The Ironworks will hold another of its successful Jazz lunches on Sunday, featuring the music of Ironworks regulars the Chicago Swing Katz.

Conjuring up the sounds of 1920s New Orleans, the six-piece play some of the best tunes from the Swing Era.

It starts at 12.30pm and carries on until noon. Entry is £4. Next Tuesday night, the Ironworks holds its open mic night, Limelight. If you think you can entertain a crowd, whether your talent is music, poetry or comedy. The evening is hosted by Tom Stedman and starts at 9pm. Entry is free.



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THE ARTS

Concert date at hall



THE Oswestry Association for the Elderly organised a spring concert in Morda Village Hall, featuring Ruth Moore Williams, from Liangollen, the well-known singer and songwriter, entertainer and comedian. Our picture shows members of the audience enjoying the event.

Picture: Peter Flemmich

Gallery hosts events

TWO art professionals will be visiting a gallery in Oswestry to teach people their skills.

The Willow Gallery will be hosting a felt-making event on April 27 with Sue Mulcock from 10.30am until 4pm.

Those taking part can take home the felt pieces they have created. The event costs £35 including all materials.

There will also be a photography workshop on April 27 from 1pm until 4pm, led by Tony Edmonds. The afternoon will cost £12 and people will need to bring along their own digital camera.

For more information about the events call (01691) 657575 or visit www.willowartgallery.co.uk

01691 668094

Celebrating choir's 30th anniversary

OSWESTRY choir Cantiones turns 30 this year and, to celebrate, there will be a 30th anniversary concert with the Border Chamber Orchestra on Saturday at Holy Trinity Church, Oswestry.

The choir was formed in 1983 by Mike Smith, the then choirmaster and organist of St Oswald's Parish Church.

At first it was a small group but has grown and now has about 36 members, several of whom have been with the choir since the beginning.

The programme for the Anniversary Concert includes the Durufle requiem, Mozart's Missa Brevis in D, Handel's Chandos anthem (no 9) and Mendelssohn's duet 'I waited for the Lord'.

A choir spokesman said: "The music is quite challenging and we have been working hard on it since the beginning of the year. It is very enjoyable and rewarding to sing and we hope the audience will enjoy it."

Durufle's Requiem is a beautiful and moving piece, based on Gregorian themes of the Mass of the Dead, but with 20th century harmonies and rhythms with a glorious solo, Pie Jesu, for mezzo soprano.

For their part, Mozart and

Handel need no introduction. We are delighted to be supported by our friends of the Border Chamber Quartet; we have always enjoyed performing with them in the past.

"We are hoping that as many of our supporters will come to help us to celebrate 30 wonderful years."

The choir will be conducted by Gerry Howe, one of the choir's longest-serving Music Directors, and accompanied by the Border Chamber Quartet, made up of talented local string players and Shirley Newman on the piano, who have regularly accompanied Cantiones.

The concert on Saturday starts at 7.30pm, at Holy Trinity Church, Oswestry. Tickets are £8 from The Heritage Centre, Rowan-thorn in Old Chapel Court Oswestry, and also from choir members or on the door.

by Graham Breeze

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Day 5: After a last, breakfast, we travel home.

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Wed: Full day out to the beautiful city of Bath.

Thu: Today is left free to explore Street.

Fri: One last breakfast, then we travel home, stopping at one of the country's best garden centres 'Webbs of Droitwich'.

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New-look Sorento will give Kia even more kerb appeal



KIA SALES went through the roof in March with 12,608 vehicles delivered to customers and the new Sorento has played a big part in the jump.

January to March was Kia's best first quarter since the height of the Government's scrappage scheme in 2010 which sent sales soaring.

With 19,204 vehicles registered in the first three months Kia captured at 3.17 per cent share of the new car market - up by almost 12 per cent against 2012.

The March figures showed a near 13 per cent increase against 2012's figure of 11,178.

Launched in the UK last September, the newly upgraded Sorento has a long list of improvements including a new platform, revised engines, enhanced interior quality and a smarter, more modern look.

The Sorento range comes only with a 2.2 litre turbo-diesel engine but with a host of emission-reducing and fuel-stretching features.

Available with a choice of manual or automatic transmissions and seven seats as standard the Sorento range starts at £26,495 and jumps to over £35,000 at the top end.

The most recent upgrade moves the Sorento closer than ever to becoming a premium SUV. It was already an outstanding 4x4s on the market and now it's better than ever.

There's an awful lot of competition in the SUV market and while this Kia comes at the lower end of the price chain there's an argument that there are better options in the sector.

But there are huge advantages to buying a



The new-look Sorento has seven-seats and seven-year warranty



With the seats down the load area on the Sorento is vast



Big dials feature on the dashboard

Kia, none more than the standard, seven year warranty. Buyers can also fix their running costs with three years servicing and MOT for just £379.

The Sorento's 194bhp 2.2-litre diesel engine is strong and flexible and comes with a choice of manual or automatic boxes.

There's no doubt that the Sorento is a big car and you are aware of it when behind the wheel and despite a bit of twitching around on country roads you are always confident that there's enough grip to get you home safely.

There's nothing too fussy in the cabin and you might argue that Kia has cut some cost corners, but while things aren't as refined as in many opposition models it's hard to criticise too much.

Controls are sensibly laid out and the high seating position means you get a great view.

The steering wheel adjusts for reach and rake so there's no excuse for not getting comfortable.

Safety is high on Kia's agenda and front-seat occupants are protected by front and side airbags, while window airbags run the full length of the cabin. Stability control is also standard across the range.

Luggage

The Sorento scored a maximum five-star rating in Euro NCAP crash tests and comes complete with deadlocks, an alarm and an immobilizer. One massive plus is that CO₂ emissions are only 155 g/km in the entry model and only rise to 178 g/km for the range-topping KX-3. All Sorentos have seven seats, but like in all models in this segment you wouldn't catch me

travelling too far as a rear seat passenger - there simply isn't enough leg room for anyone other than a child. If you demand plenty of luggage space the Kia is right up your street and there's even more room when you fold the rear seats into the floor to display a huge load area.

The entry-level KX-1 model on test came with alloy wheels, front and rear electric windows, air-conditioning, cruise control and automatic headlights. The more expensive KX-2 versions adds heated leather seats, privacy glass and rain-sensing wipers while the range-topping KX-3 has larger alloys, Xenon headlights, a panoramic glass roof, electric seats and sat-nav.

The Sorento is without doubt a value-for-money option in the SUV sector and when you throw in the seven year warranty it's easy to see why Kia sales are on the increase.

Bumper to bumper

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Motoring

Mazda3 models upgraded but price stays the same

Mazda has enhanced three of its special edition Mazda3 models with more equipment, while prices are unchanged.

Two Venture models, one powered by a 1.6-litre petrol and the other by a 1.6 diesel, share a selection of new features, while the high-end Mazda3 Sport Nav, with a 2.2-litre diesel under the bonnet, receives a different set of extras.

The Venture duo, introduced last year, will benefit from 17in 'bright finish'

alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, black mica door mirrors and new black upholstery with contrasting red stitching. There is also the £495 option of a new exterior paint colour: Zeal Red Mica.

Prices for the enhanced models, which already had an upgraded standard specification, are unchanged, starting at £17,495 on the road for the 104bhp 1.6-litre petrol engine and rising to £18,995 for the 113bhp 1.6-litre diesel.

The Mazda3 Sport Nav can also now

count extra equipment among its benefits. Its rear light clusters have been upgraded to LEDs, and a heated windscreen adds an invaluable touch of practicality. As standard, it is powered by a 182bhp diesel engine that provides huge in-gear acceleration.

Again its price has remained static at £20,995 on the road.

Until the end of June this year, customers can choose 0 per cent finance with zero deposit and monthly payments from just £274 for a Venture and from £323 for the Sport Nav.



The Mazda 3 Venture edition brings extra equipment and a 2.2-litre diesel engine



The new Citroen C4 Picasso which has a larger boot, two large colour displays and lower emissions

Citroen's new Picasso set to be a free road tax work of art

Citroen has released the first details of the new C4 Picasso, highlighting its larger boot, lower emissions and two large colour displays.

The sharply styled model, which Citroen claims is the first compact MPV to offer the possibility to dip below the 100g/km threshold for free road tax, uses a new modular platform that has enabled up to 140kg to be saved and interior space to be increased thanks to a front overhang that has been shortened by 70mm.

A range of engines at the car's launch will include new Euro 6-com-

pliant diesels with power outputs from 89bhp to 148bhp.

Manual and automated manual gearboxes will also be available, with a traditional automatic transmission pencilled in for early 2014.

The highlights of the new engine line-up include the entry-level 89bhp HDi with 74mpg and just 98g/km of CO₂, making it very cost-effective.

Arguably even better is the 148bhp BlueHDi diesel, which only emits 110g/km of carbon dioxide.

More details and prices will follow from the Citroen headquarters in the coming weeks, with the first deliveries of the new C4 Picasso models expected to arrive in the autumn.



How the old Citroen C4 Picasso looked

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Solutions representative finance example new Octavia Hatch S 1.2 TSI 105PS:
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On the road retail cash price	£15,990.00	Option to purchase fee	£60.00 [^]
35 monthly payments of	£189.00	Optional final payment	£6,374.70
Customer deposit	£4,222.27	Amount of credit	£11,267.73
ŠKODA deposit contribution	£500.00	Total amount payable	£17,771.97
Total deposit amount	£4,722.27	Representative APR	6.9% APR
Acceptance fee	£125.00 [^]	Rate of interest	6.12% fixed

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^{*}ŠKODA Octavia S 1.2 TSI 105PS starts from £15,990 OTR. Model shown is Octavia Elegance 1.4 TSI 140PS with optional Brilliant Silver metallic paint, Bi-Xenon lighting package and 18" 'Golus' alloy wheels. £22,35 OTR. 3 years or 30,000 miles free servicing (whichever comes sooner) available when purchased with Solutions or Hire Purchase from ŠKODA Finance. 6.9% APR Representative. Terms and conditions apply. Available when ordering with Solutions from ŠKODA Finance. Available on new retail orders subject to availability before 30th June 2013. *Payable with first payment. [†]Payable with optional final payment. *Excess mileage 4.4p per mile. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Freeprint ŠKODA Finance. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Octavia range: Urban 43.5 (6.5) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6) – 85.6 (3.3). Combined 53.3 (5.3) – 74.3 (3.8). CO₂ emissions 121 – 99 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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^{*}Citigo Sport 3-door 1.0 MPI 60PS 5-speed Manual from £10,290. Model shown: Citigo Sport 5-door 1.0 MPI 60PS 5-speed Manual from £10,640 with Serpens 16-inch alloy wheels at £270. 10m's free insurance is available from ŠKODA Insurance for drivers over 21. Other eligibility criteria applies. Go to www.insurewithskoda.co.uk/citigo for full terms and conditions. ŠKODA Insurance Motor Insurance is sold, underwritten and administered by Allianz Insurance plc. Free insurance is available on Citigo Sport Only. Retail sales only. Offer available on orders before 30th June, 2013. Subject to availability.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Citigo: Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) – 78.5 (3.6). Combined 62.8 (4.9) – 68.9 (4.1). Citigo CO₂ emissions 105 – 96 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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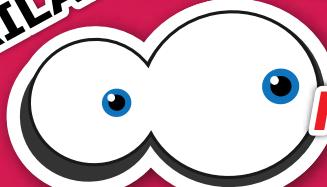
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Meriva Estate 1.4i 16V Exclusiv 5dr (2010 on)	£124.99	£8,999.00	£2,078.00	£6,921.00	£1,084.89	£10,083.89	£3,506.25	10,000	14.9p	37 Months	3.55%	6.9%

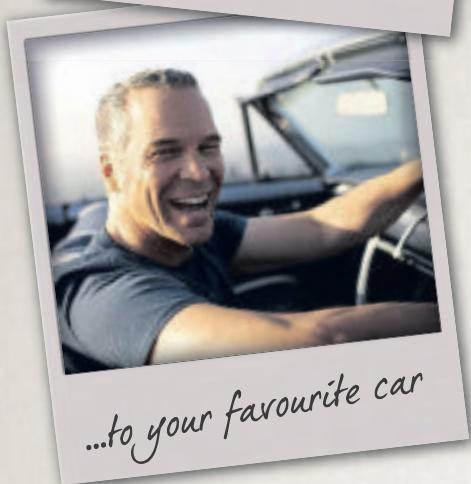
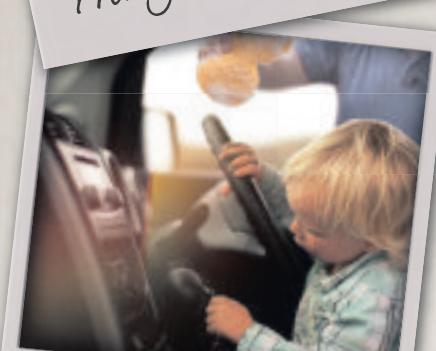
Finance Example	36 Monthly Payments of £	Retail Price	Customer Deposit	Amount of credit	Interest charges	Total amount payable	Optional final payment	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge	Duration of Agreement	Fixed rate of interest p.a.	APR
Astra Hatchback 1.4i 16V Exclusiv 5dr (2009 to 2012)	£155.01	£9,999.00	£2,067.00	£7,932.00	£1,197.11	£11,196.11	£3,548.75	10,000	14.9p	37 Months	3.55%	6.9%
Corsa Hatchback 1.2 Sxi 5dr [Ac] (2011 on)	£119.02	£8,495.00	£1,682.00	£6,813.00	£1,084.22	£9,579.22	£3,612.50	10,000	14.9p	37 Months	3.55%	6.9%

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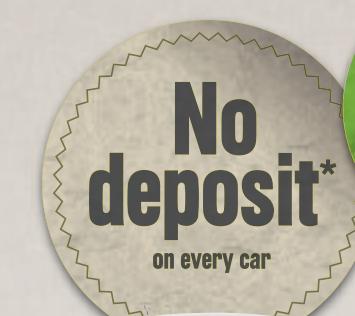


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Cash price (inc VAT)	£6995.00
Duration	48 Months
Amount to finance	£6995.00
Interest charges	£1573.53
Final payment of	£3214.00
Option to purchase fee	£285.00
Total amount payable	£8853.53
Miles per annum	6,000
Excess mileage charge	0.06p
Fixed rate	8.07%
Representative APR	9.3%

60 Reg Vauxhall Corsa CDTi



Cash Price &
Total Payable
Deposit
£5995 Nil
260 Weekly
Payments of
0% APR

10 Reg Fiat Punto 1.4 Active



Cash Price &
Total Payable
Deposit
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260 Weekly
Payments of
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Total Payable
Deposit
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SPORT

Oswestry Ladies end season on a real high

Chester and District 1 Oswestry Ladies 4

AFTER an incredible season that has seen Oswestry Ladies win all but one of their matches, the local team finished on a high when they beat Chester and District away, last Saturday, writes **Edward Roberts**.

It was their final match of the season and a game that had previously been delayed due to bad weather.

After a surprise loss to Alderley Edge last time out which put an end to their unbeaten streak, the 14 strong Oswestry side were determined to impress, and impress they did.

Getting off to a positive start, Oswestry pushed the action in an attempt to get an early goal.

It was an intense affair with both teams vying for control.

Tracey Royle capitalised on the early pressure from Oswestry slotting the ball in the back of the net, unfortunately play was brought back due to an earlier infringement.

The Chester goalkeeper put in an impressive performance, pulling off a number of good saves when called upon.

Oswestry gained the upper hand in possession, leading to their first official goal of the match.

Stunning

In reaction to this, Chester redoubled their efforts and quickly equalised the score.

Oswestry managed to extend their lead with a second goal just before the half-time whistle.

WHITTINGTON A had a disappointing first night as they went down 6-4 on home soil to Ruabon A, who shaded the spoils after taking the shots aggregate by seven.

"It was a bad start," said captain Aled Davies.

"With the state of our green after the snow, we would have taken any kind of win, but Ruabon bowled the green better than us."

It was always going to prove tough going with Whittington having had little chance to get to grips with their own green following recent heavy snow.

BOWLS

by John Bridgwater

Chirk," said captain Tony Pritchard. Newcomer Keith Bacon, who has joined from Weston Rhyn, marked his first appearance with a 21-20 win, while Mark Kirkham (21-14), James Caudlin (21-15) and Paul Smith, who won to 19, were the other winners.

CHURCH A were left kicking their heels as their visit to newly promoted Flexsys A was postponed as their hosts were unable to prepare their green following recent heavy snow.

Delighted

The match has been rescheduled for next Monday, while Church entertain local rivals Whittington A the following night.

CHURCH B, back in division two this season after one season in the top flight, opened with an encouraging 7-3 (136-129) victory at home to **OLDE CROFTE D**.

GEORGE got their season off to a flier with 9-1 home beating of **BLACK LION**, taking the aggregate by 46, with Lance Leonard leading the way with a 21-7 success.

It was a disappointing night for Whittington A all round.

While the first team were losing to Ruabon, the B string were well beaten 9-1 at Llangynog A.

LLANFYLLIN A, who narrowly avoided relegation last term, were happy enough with their start as they finished 4-4 with visiting Chirk A, but lost the aggregate 152-121 for a 6-4 defeat.

"It's not a bad start as we usually struggle against

OUTSIDE the top two divisions, one of the most gripping opening night matches was served up between **WHITTINGTON D** at home to **Llanrhaeadr B** in division five of the Oswestry and District Bowls League.

Visiting Llanrhaeadr had looked on course for the spoils as their first five all won, including Derek Saunders to 13.

But Whittington refused to surrender and roared back with late wins from Meirion Davies (21-8) and Edward Williams (21-7) helping them take the points aggregate 149-134 for an unlikely 5-5 draw.

It has been a testing start for **WESTON RHYN** whose 'D' string succumbed 7-3 (121-147) to Bersham, their best win coming at the end courtesy of Malcolm Jones (21-8).

YR OLDE CROFTE B were also 7-3 (135-144) losers on home soil, Geoff Thomas (21-11) their best winner.

Relegated to division three this season, **CRIFTINS B** opened with a narrow 6-4 loss at Plas Kynaston A, the shots going 145-129 to the hosts.

After a slow start, the visitors won three of the last four, the best being Andrew Miner (21-8), but it wasn't enough.

CHURCH C made a disappointing start after last term's promotion as they were well beaten 9-1 at **WESTON RHYN C** (158-105).

Brian Davies led the charge with a 21-4 win at the top to take Rhyn's coffers, while Neil Williams (21-11) notched a consolation for the visitors.

CRIFTINS C proved too strong for **WHITTINGTON E** as they ran out 8-2 winners, Neil Edwards (21-4) and Roger Barkley (21-13) among the victors, while John Harrison responded (21-14).

In division four, **LLANFYLLIN A**'s fight-

back just fell short as they went down 6-4 (138-133) at Llangynog C. They had been well behind but three wins in the last four gave them hope, Hugh Jones a 21-7 winner.

CHURCH D were well beaten 8-2 (120-150) at home to **LLANFYLLIN B**, who wrapped up the win with single figure wins from Keith Malkin (21-7) and Basil Kirkham (21-9), with Jim Drury (21-11) the best of the responses.

ELLESMORE B continued last term's good form with a 10-0 rout of **WESTON RHYN B**, taking the shots by 99, with Beryl Hall a 21-0 winner.

Phil Roberts (21-7) helped **LLANRHAEADR C** see off Corwen 6-4 (149-132) while **ELLESMORE A** were too hot for **WHITTINGTON C** in winning 8-2 away, 49 shots, with Courtney Metcalfe a 21-7 winner.

The tightest match in division six saw

LLANFYLLIN B salvage a 5-5 draw at **CHURCH E** after taking the shots by just two.

A closely fought affair, saw Church edge the eight games 5-3, helped by good single figure scores from Tony Dart (21-5) and Dot Thomas (21-6), but Llanfyllin earned parity on shots 116-114, with Jim Drury (21-11) the best of the responses.

LLANRHAEADR D edged out their club mates **LLANRHAEADR E** 6-4 (143-134), Bronwen Jones the pick for the victors with a 21-9 success while David France (21-11) was the best of the responses.

WESTON RHYN E were downed 8-2 (143-85) at Llangynog B, Ian Beckett getting a 21-4 consolation at the end.

Joan Roberts (21-8) led the way as **LLANFYLLIN C** notched a fine 7-3 (132-117) away win at Johnstown E.

Wizards get ready for action



Some of the new Oswestry Wizards basketball team at a training session

First cricket match of season halted by rain

RAIN brought a halt to Oswestry's first cricket match of the season after Mark Robinson's side had turned in a fine bowling and fielding performance at Premier Division Wombourne.

The home side made 176-9 off their allotted 40 overs in a first-round tie in the Birmingham League's Graham Williamson Trophy, but then the rain prevented Oswestry from starting their innings.

Pick of the Oswestry bowlers were Jonathan Miles, who took 2-14 off his eight wickets, Warrick Fynn (2-28) and skipper Robinson (1-24). The game will now be replayed, from scratch, at Wombourne this Saturday, with a trip to Shrewsbury awaiting the winners.

Oswestry's Third and Fourth teams begin their Shropshire County League campaigns this Saturday, with the Thirds visiting Wheaton Aston, and the Fourths taking on Market Drayton Seconds at Morda Road. The First XI start their League season with a home game against Water Orton on Saturday, April 27.

Champions Llandrinio marching on in cup hunt

CHAMPIONS Llandrinio are on the prowl for more silverware after sealing their place in the second round of the Mid Wales Trophy Consolation Cup.

Having already landed the Montgomeryshire League division two crown, the league leaders kept their flag flying in the Consolation Cup with a 2-1 passage at Kerry reserves with Neal Bebb and Adam Knight on target, with Curtis Smith responding.

Bettws also progressed in the same competition, prevailing 3-1 at Newtown Wanderers courtesy of goals from Richard Williams, Matthew Williams and Jamie Huxley.

WATERLOO RES are flying high at the top of the Honda division one but - without a game last weekend - they have seen their lead trimmed to three points by Caersws reserves who also have three games in hand.

Caersws boosted their title prospects with a 7-1 beating of **LLANSANTIFRAID RES** with a hat-trick from Sam Williams, while Shane Swanton also scored twice.

LLANFAIR RES kept alive their chances off a top three finish with a 3-2 verdict at close rivals **LLANRHAEADR RES** with Jon Richards, Ashley Davies and Ben Jones on the mark.

MEIFOD finished 1-1 at home to **GUILDFIELD RES**, Andrew Weaver on target for the hosts while Dan Pritchard responded.

TREFONEN continue to hover close relegation danger after their 4-2 home loss to **LLANGEDWYN** who returned with the points with Gavin Wright scoring twice, and Peter Jones and Josh Edwards getting the others. Lee Morris and Jamie Jones found the net for the home side who are still third from bottom.

In the Mitsubishi division two, **CHURCHSTOKE** ended their league campaign with a 2-2 draw against visiting Carno reserves, James Durie and Joe Haycock on target.

Tigers roar to fine win over Tigers

IN only their second game since December, Oswestry Tigers notched a fine 2-0 home win over Saha Tigers in an excellent encounter.

In a evenly contested first half, Charlie Morris hit the bar with a fine effort, but the hosts took the lead in the second half when, after a flowing move, Sam Wall knocked the ball square to Max Thomas to slot into the net.

Saha went close but were met by some fine saves from keeper Alex Jones before another flowing move saw Olly Evans knock a through ball for player-of-the-match Wall to coolly finish for a 2-0 lead.

With Aaron Spelman putting in another fine performance, the Tigers saw the game out to seal a fine win.

The Tigers followed it up with a 3-1 verdict at windy Prees Predators who had taken the lead with a scrambling effort after a goalless first period.

Despite playing against the wind in the second half, the Tigers started to pass the ball around with ease and Olly Evans broke through to level.

Evans then crossed for Sam Wall to give the Tigers the lead and late on Max Thomas sealed the win.

Whittington D fight back to get a draw in thriller

Ifton lose but get five winners

IFTON, who have often toiled on the road in recent campaigns, showed plenty of spirit when they returned with five winners from their first trip of the season to Bowring in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League.

Although eventually losing 9-5 (27 shots), there was plenty of encouragement, particularly in the manner of two fightbacks to secure wins in the middle four.

They make one change, with Giles Evans coming in for the unavailable Andrew Hughes who was narrowly beaten 21-20 last week. "Hadley won't know much about our green so we'll be looking for a double figure win," said skipper Dicky Jones.

he overturned an 18-7 deficit to win to 20.

After two matches, they won their first 5 (six shots) at home to new boys Burway on the opening night, Ifton lie eighth, and will be hoping for double figures when they welcome another new side Hadley USC to their St Martins green tomorrow night (Friday).

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SPORT

Late Zieman header salvages point Villagers' survival fight gets a boost

MARTYN Zieman's late header – his second goal of the game – managed to salvage a 2-2 draw for Guisfield in their Cymru Alliance clash with Holyhead Hotspur at a rain-lashed Community Centre Ground.

The two halves could hardly have been more contrasting, with the Guisfield on the back foot and 2-0 down at the interval, before roaring back in the second period to gain a deserved point to maintain their creditable form since the turn of the year.

The fightback and character shown by the villagers will put them in good heart for a testing week – at home to Cefn Druids last night before travelling to Conwy Borough on Saturday.

Holyhead came out of the blocks from the first whistle and hardly looked like a side which had been inactive for a month.

With the wind and rain at their backs, the Anglesey side dominated the opening exchanges

and adapted to the conditions better by playing the ball forward quickly.

Guisfield failed to cope with the pace and movement of the opposition front line and were undone in the 15th minute after Mike Edwards' dangerous cross was unluckily prodded into the net by home defender Jonathan Jones.

Determined

The home side came unstuck again 10 minutes later as a quickly taken corner was fed to Edwards and another dangerous cross was met by Holyhead captain Gareth Owen who powered his header into the net.

The second half saw a complete turnaround with Guisfield making the most of the conditions and determined to drag themselves back into the game.

The tireless Zieman was rewarded for his efforts with a smartly taken shot evading Ben

Heald in the Hotspur goal on 68 mins. The visitors were becoming increasingly worn down as their lack of game time was beginning to show, and Guisfield thought their chance to equalise had come on 71 minutes after Ian Probert was tripped in the box.

The usually reliable Chris Cathrall took the spot kick but Heald produced a good save to deny the home side.

Undaunted, the Guisfield pressed on, dominating possession and territory as the Holyhead side tired further.

The equaliser finally came four minutes from time as Cookson's deep cross was met at the far post by Zieman who headed home from a tight angle.

In the end, Holyhead were grateful to hang on to their hard earned point, while Guisfield can look back on a display which showed plenty of character and determination.

Huw's Gray Alliance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rhyd	25	22	3	0	91	18	69
Conwy Borough	29	17	7	5	56	37	58
Cefn Druids	25	18	3	4	65	27	57
Flintshire	25	16	3	6	52	37	56
Buckley Town	26	10	6	10	50	31	49
Portmadog	30	11	5	14	48	49	40
Guisfield	24	11	4	9	52	44	37
Penycae Town Ltd	25	10	3	12	42	35	35
Bethyddfa	27	7	3	13	41	58	28
Llandudno	28	7	3	14	32	57	26
Rhuddlan	27	6	8	13	45	86	26
Rhylader Town	24	6	5	13	35	59	23
Llanhaeadr YM	27	6	4	19	27	77	16
Ruthin Town	27	3	6	18	43	98	15

TWO wonder goals lifted Llanhaeadr off the foot of the Cymru Alliance table with a morale-boosting 2-0 win at fellow strugglers Ruthin Town.

The villagers still face a tough ask if they are to survive in the league, but they enjoyed a rare victory that saw them edge above their hosts in the basement.

A goal in each half saw them take the honours, Jamie Evans opening the scoring on 33 minutes when breaking from inside his own half before beating one defender and outpacing another, and then lifting the ball into the net from 25 yards.

The second on 64 minutes was even better, with Hamish Clifton launching a sensational 70-yard run before smashing his shot into the net from just inside the box via the post.

Boss Mario Iaquinta was delighted to end the losing run, although he conceded his side still have plenty to do if they are to escape the drop, with at least three wins needed from their remaining five games.

"All I have said to the lads is to try and improve on last year," he said.

"We've got ourselves off the bottom of the table, we've now got one more win than last year and another three points would give us more points than last season."

Impressive

A wind affected affair saw few chances in the first half, which was only punctuated by Evans' fine strike that came after a swift raid upfield.

Ruthin, themselves battling for league survival, stormed forward early in the second period and it needed a resilient defensive display, Robert Fox and Emrys Roberts particularly impressive, and three excellent saves from keeper Darren Powell to keep them out.

However, a terrific solo goal from Clifton gave Llanhaeadr a two goal lead that they never looked likely to relinquish.

They are now one point above Ruthin, but six adrift of Penycae with a game in hand. Next up is a trip to Buckley Town on Saturday, before hosting Guisfield the following midweek.

Eagles trip to Douglas ends with a 86-0 defeat

OSWESTRY suffered a day they would want to forget when they crashed 86-0 at high riding Douglas as their recent slide in rugby's south Lancs and Cheshire Two continued.

Having been beaten 47-5 against Ormskirk at Granville Park the previous week, hopes of a change of fortune did not look too promising on the Isle of Man where the Eagles have yet to win.

And so it proved as second placed Douglas exploited their depleted hosts to maintain their own promotion hopes, while Oswestry have now slipped to ninth in the table, although still well clear of basement danger.

On Saturday, they are at home to mid-table Moore, where they will be hoping to halt the slump which has seen five defeats in their last six outings.

OSWESTRY II fared marginally better, but ended up beaten 45-22 at promotion chasing Wilmot III in the Raging Bull North West League division three (south).

The Eagles' second string have now lost their last four league outings to languish in the lower reaches. They are third from bottom and face a crunch home clash with Moore II on Saturday, with their visitors

Rangers agony at late goal winner

ELLESmere Rangers must not dwell on their heart-breaking 3-2 defeat at fellow Midland Alliance strugglers Heath Hayes, club spokesman Mark McIntyre has said.

The Meresiders' were sunk by an 88th minute winner, less than 60 seconds after they had equalised, in a relegation 'six-pointer' in Cannock.

Karl Wallis's strike cancelled out Andy Davies' own goal to hand Delwyn Humphreys' side their first defeat in eight matches, leaving them four points from safety.

Ellesmere now have just five games left to beat the drop and they face a testing end-of-season run in.

McIntyre admitted the defeat was a body blow but he insisted the players must banish Saturday's result from their thoughts as quickly as possible if they are to mount another run towards safety.

"When they scored the winner I was gobsmacked because we just had to kick it anywhere, defend like made for a few minutes and we'd have had a point, which was almost as good as a win at this stage of the season," he said.

Penalty

"It was a six-pointer and Heath Hayes have got the upper hand on us now so we probably still need to win three of our last five matches to survive."

"But we created enough chances to win the game and we have to look forward."

"I think the players will be able to kick on."

Ellesmere had taken the lead on 25 minutes when Tom Kelly slotted home on the rebound after Heath Hayes keeper Adam Lane had blocked Marcus Sharrod's initial effort.

But the hosts, who are now four points and two places above the Meresiders, equalised in similar fashion when Chad Deggville-Cross also scored on the rebound.

Heath Hayes took a 50th minute lead from Chris Deakin's penalty after Kevin Renshaw was adjudged to have brought down Steven Allen in the box.

Ellesmere wasted several chances to equalise, with Dan Tolley and James O'Reilly both going close for the visitors.

When Renshaw's cross was accidentally diverted past Lane by Davies with just three minutes left, it looked like Ellesmere would end up with a share of the spoils.

But Wallis's quick reactions in the next 45 seconds ensures that Ellesmere still have plenty of work to do to avoid relegation.

COBRA on the silverware trail after booking place in final

COBRA stayed in sight of some silverware this season after booking their ticket for the final of the North Wales Plate with a comfortable 37-3 passage at Rhyd.

It was a good week for the Meifod men who also maintained their promotion push in the North Wales League division two (north) with a 58-14 mauling of lowly Llanidloes in their latest league action.

And they should be assured of second spot should they defeat their main promotion rivals Llandudno at home this Saturday. They are 14 points clear of the seafiders who have two games in hand.

Despite having a few key players missing last weekend, they proved too strong for hosts Rhyd and underlined their superiority with four of their five tries coming in the second half.

RUGBY
by John Bridgwater



COBRA launch an attack in the win over Rhyd



COBRA were flying high in their comfortable 58-14 mauling of lowly Llanidloes



A COBRA player goes for the line in the 37-3 victory over Rhyd

Morda are back on top after convincing win at FC Hodnet Reserves relegation battle goes on after home defeat

TITLE-chasing Morda United returned to the top of the Mercian Regional League premier division with a convincing 3-0 victory at FC Hodnet.

The momentum was maintained when Mike Lloyd tapped in at the far post on the half hour. The bulk of the second half was played out in midfield but, when called upon, reserve team Daniel Wood in the Morda goal showed his mettle pulling off a couple of fine saves.

He ensured a clean sheet on the premier division debut with another fine save in the last minute as Morda replaced Church Stretton at the top of the table.

However, their main rivals AFC Ludlow, who they still have to play twice, also won 2-0 at Shifnal 97, to keep up the pressure.

Morda are on the road again this weekend when they head to fourth placed Teddington Juniors for another crunch encounter.

Brown Cleee came back into the game

when defender Dave Martin hit the equaliser when curling in a lob from the corner of the box, and livewire striker Dan Porter then put the visitors ahead with a low shot.

The young Morda side, however, stuck to their task and Kenny drew two fine saves from the visiting keeper, while Josh Hudson battled well in midfield, and Mikey Jones marshalled his defence effectively.

Unfortunately, they were unable to convert their efforts into goals and the visitors got a third when Dan Conroy fired in a penalty after being brought down in the box.

On Saturday, Morda look for much-needed points when they travel to face Cleee Hill United.

DESPITE taking the lead on the half hour through Ryan Jones, Morda reserves finally succumbed 3-1 at home to Brown Cleee as their relegation concerns in the Mercian Regional League division one continue.

The bulk of the early play saw Morda pegged in their own half for much of the time, but central defender Chris Carswell, donning the gloves to solve the club's goalkeeping crisis, was seldom troubled.

The hosts then began to challenge the Cleee defence with Ryan Kenny twice thwarted by the offside flag, but the flag remained down on the half hour when Ryan Jones ran through and finished neatly to put Morda one up.

Brown Cleee came back into the game

SPORT**Shock as Lions are thumped at Juniors**

THE Oswestry Lions suffered a shock setback in their promotion quest from the Mercian Regional League premier division when they crashed 5-2 at rock bottom Wrockwardine Wood.

A dreadful surface soon proved a leveller as the Lions went behind after five minutes when managing to turn the ball into their own net from a home free kick.

However, they got back on terms within minutes as Tom Jones was brought down in the box and Graham Dyke put the spot kick away.

At this stage the Lions looked comfortable and were unlucky not to take the lead when Ben Williams latched on to a Gary Windsor corner only to see the home keeper tip his header over the bar.

But the resulting corner, again from Windsor, saw striker Graham Dyke rise and head the ball past the helpless keeper to give his side the lead.

Captain Ollie Jones then saw his goal bound shot brilliantly tipped round the post, which was to prove a key moment as the hosts punted the ball forward and saw their striker fire in the equaliser, and then went ahead with a scrambled goal just before half time.

Conditions

The second half saw the Lions pick up the tempo but still struggled with the surface and an unpredictable referee.

Midway through the half, the home side scored their fourth after a Lions defensive slip and shortly after they managed a fifth, yet again scrambled home, after they had failed to deal with a free kick.

Manager Nick Maguire was very upset with his side's display but agreed the conditions were hard to play their usual game, but was looking for his side to bounce back against Cle Hill at Shrewsbury Sports village this week as they bid for a place in the league cup final.

On Saturday, the Lions are away at Rock Rovers to the Venue (3pm) for a crunch promotion clash.

● After a lengthy spell without any league action, second bottom WESTON RHYN finally return to the pitch on Saturday with a crunch clash at Oakengates as they battle for survival in the premier division.

Castle beat Boys Club

OSWESTRY Boys Club succumbed 3-0 at mid-table rivals Bishop's Castle in the Mercian Regional League division one.

First half goals from Wayne Edwards and manager Andrew Green gave Castle a two-goal interval lead, before Matt Jones settled the issue.

Playing their first game in five months, Oswestry Boys under-13s ran out comfortable 6-2 winners against Nesscliffe Juniors in the Shropshire Junior League.

Brandon Rogers opened the scoring on 10 minutes. William Baker made it two before Matty Cooper tapped in one before the break.

Rogers headed in another corner shortly before half time but Nesscliffe scored one before the break.

Midway through the second half Rogers completed his hat-trick with a neat finish before Curtis Weetman got a well deserved goal.

Montgomery's hopes boosted by two wins

MONTGOMERY still are hanging onto the coat-tails of leaders Llanidloes Town in the race for the Spar Mid Wales League division one crown after pulling off two crucial wins, writes John Bridgwater.

After their 6-0 beating of Four Crosses, Clive McNamee's side followed that up with a 4-1 home verdict over one time leaders Builth Wells courtesy of two goals apiece from Elliot Jones and Rhidian Morris to keep the title race alive.

Despite those victories, third placed Monty still trail leaders Llanidloes by 10 points, but they have two games in hand, and also have to play the Daffs again.

Llani are still sitting pretty at the top, but were made to work hard for their 1-0 win at home to struggling Dyffryn Banw, Gareth

Mansell getting the game's only goal with a first half penalty in his side's sixth win on the trot.

A few days before, Llani were pushed all the before before maintaining their title quest with 2-1 verdict over Berriew, thanks to goals in each half from Richie Evans and Mansell, with another penalty.

FOUR CROSSES halted their slump with a much needed 5-3 win at Bow Street, with Alex Gunn getting two of the goals, and the return of Paul Bacha in the centre of midfield after a long lay-off making a significant difference.

"After the last three results, it was important to get a win, and also show the right attitude," said boss Nick Popyk.

After trailing to an early goal from Stuart

Fraser, they rallied with Gunn getting his head to a Matty Jones corner, while good work by Jones then teed up Ryan Morris who planted his 30-yarder into the net.

After the break, Gunn's neat through ball released Jack Harris who made no mistake but Mike Gornall revived Bow Street with a super free kick.

Gunn restored the two goal cushion with his second of the game, and Bacha found the net when turning Gunn's shot into the net, before Fraser grabbed a consolation and his second with a dubious penalty after Mattie Davies went down in the box.

It was a good response from Four Crosses who just a few days before had suffered a 6-0 drubbing at Montgomery whose Tom Evans and Elliot Jones both scored twice,

with Rhidian Morris and Josh Evans getting the others.

BERRIEW are also looking good for a top five finish after their 2-1 home verdict over Aberaeron with goals from Keiran Groves and Rob Pritchard, the visitors pulling one back at the end with a penalty.

There were plenty of goals as LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE drew 4-4 at mid-table rivals Tywyn Bryncrug.

WELSHPOOL's improved fortunes came to an end as they slipped to a 1-0 home loss to Carno.

But fourth placed WATERLOO ROVERS had no such problems as they swamped struggling Newbridge 7-0, Steve Hole continuing his productive season with a brace.

League table and results

Spar Mid Wales League
Division one: Berriew 2, Aberaeron 1; Bow Street 3, Four Crosses 5; Llanidloes 1, Dyffryn Banw 0; Montgomery 4, Builth Wells 1; Newbridge 0; Wye 0, Waterloo 7; Tywyn Bryncrug 4, Llanfair United 1; Machynlleth 3, Talgarth 1; Prestatyn 5, Aberdyfi 1.

Division two: Hay St Mary's 3, Llanfair 1; Rhosgoch 2, Llanfair Utd 1.

E Jenkins League Cup quarter finals:

Llanidloes 0, Abermule 1; Machynlleth 3, Talgarth 1; Prestatyn 5, Aberdyfi 3.

Division 1:

P W D L F A Pts

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Llanidloes	22	18	2	2	9	21	56
Builth Wells	26	15	5	6	66	44	50
Montgomery	26	13	6	7	60	34	48
Berry	26	13	6	7	60	34	48
Waterloo	23	13	4	6	63	44	43
Four Crosses	22	13	3	6	55	41	42
Tywyn/Bryncrug	22	12	2	8	63	41	38
Abermule	24	11	3	10	51	36	36
Llanfair	21	9	5	7	51	49	32
Aber Utd	19	9	2	8	45	35	29
Carno	23	9	2	12	37	42	29
Bow Street	23	7	7	9	54	54	28
Welshpool	28	9	1	18	77	77	28
Newbridge	25	8	3	13	37	37	21
Dyffryn Banw	25	4	0	21	27	94	12
Dolgellau	24	1	1	22	17	13	4

Division 2:

P W D L F A Pts

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Llanfair Utd	12	11	1	1	57	44	43
Llanidloes Wells	20	15	0	5	59	24	45
Rhosgoch	21	10	5	5	58	33	35
Knighton	20	10	4	6	49	35	34
Kerry	18	10	2	8	52	37	31
Machynlleth	19	8	2	9	50	46	29
Presteigne	19	8	4	7	55	52	28
St Mary's	21	7	5	9	58	56	26
Talgarth	22	5	5	12	35	58	20
Abermule	21	6	2	13	34	64	19
Llanfyllin	21	4	2	13	30	63	14
Bont	21	4	2	15	30	63	14
Aberdyfi	22	4	2	16	43	82	14

Rare defeat for Llanfair as Rhosgoch are spot on

LLANFAIR United's relentless pursuit of the Spar Mid Wales League division two title suffered a rare setback when they went down 2-1 at Rhosgoch – but they still lead the table by four points and with two games in hand on main rivals Llanidloes Wells.

Rhosgoch, who have proved a force on home surroundings this season, had led at the break through Joey Price but Rhys Stephens' side hit back to level after the break through Andrew Hughes.

However, a second goal from Price, this time from the penalty spot, settled the issue.

A few days before, Llanfair booked their place for the last four of the ER Jenkins League Cup with a 4-2 passage at Hay St Mary's.

Geraint Jones (2), Steve Andrew and Andrew Hughes netted for Llanfair while Jack Biggs had made it 1-1 for Hay at on stage with Chris Preece getting their second near the end.

In the same competition, two goals from Joe Maythorpe saw Presteigne run out 5-3 quarter-final winners over Aberdyfi.

Machynlleth also progressed to the last four with a 3-1 home passage against Talgarth, but it was the end of the road for promotion chasing Llanidloes Wells who were edged out 1-0 at home to Abermule.

St Martins grab draw

AFTER going a month without a game, St Martins finally returned to the pitch where they picked up useful point with a 1-1 draw at Wyreley in the West Midlands League division one.

Despite a lack of action, the Saints led at half time through Tim Allen and had further chances, before the hosts levelled early in the second half.

The visitors tired in the second half, but held on for a well deserved point and could have won it at the end when Liam Bailey spurned a golden chance.

Looking to make sure they steer well clear of the lower teams, the Saints faced two more road trips – at leaders Bilton last night and AFC Wombourne on Saturday – as the games come thick and fast in the next month.

FOOTBALL
by John Bridgwater



THE Welsh Premier title may be safely in the bag, but the New Saints were in no mood to relax their grip as they eased to victory against one of the main challengers for runners-up spot.

Two first half goals from top scorer Mike Wilde, taking his league tally to 22 for the season, put the Saints on course an emphatic win that exposed the gulf in class between the newly crowned champions and the pack on their own Park Hall surface.

"The first half was the best we've played all season," said head coach Carl Darlington after the Saints marked their last home outing of the campaign in style.

"We ripped them apart, our movement and work on and off the ball was phenomenal, and had we been five or six up at half time, then they couldn't have had any complaints."

"Airbus came out for the second half trying to regain some pride, and we did not start the half as well as we would have liked but, apart from a 15-minute spell, we were in total control, and always looked comfortable."

The Airbus players and management gave the newly crowned champions a guard of honour before kick-off, but the Saints were not prepared to stand on ceremony as they stormed forward from the first whistle with three goals coming in the first 23 minutes.

The Oswestry hosts were ahead after just eight minutes when Scott Ruscoe had fouled on the edge of the box, and winger Ryan Fraughan moments later setting up Wilde who spurned a golden chance for a quickfire hat-trick.

Top scorer Wilde almost made it four just before half time, but Stephens in the Airbus goal did well to keep out his close range header with a fine one handed save.

Having been almost out of sight at half time, the Saints were given a jolt four minutes after the restart when Ian Kearney headed one back for the Wingmakers from Glenn Rule's cross.

Having continued to push with Chris Jones again going close with a curling effort from the edge of the box while Jamie Mullan also tried his luck from distance.

The Oswestry hosts were ahead after just eight minutes when Scott Ruscoe had fouled on the edge of the box, and winger Ryan Fraughan moments later setting up Wilde who spurned a golden chance for a quickfire hat-trick.

Chris Jones nearly made it five after a good ball from Wilde but Airbus showed why they are challenging for runners-up spot as Michael Roddy pulled one back nine minutes from time with a 25-yard screamer that flew into the top corner to give the scoreline a more respectable look.

Three goals up, the champions were in no mood to ease off the gas, with a great respectable look.

Playing their first game in five months, Oswestry Boys under-13s ran out comfortable 6-2 winners against Nesscliffe Juniors in the Shropshire Junior League.

Brandon Rogers opened the scoring on 10 minutes. William Baker made it two before Matty Cooper tapped in one before the break.

Rogers headed in another corner shortly before half time but Nesscliffe scored one before the break.

Midway through the second half Rogers completed his hat-trick with a neat finish before Curtis Weetman got a well deserved goal.

CROSS FOXES came from behind to grab place in cup final

Malpas levelled in the fist minute of the second half of extra time when Andy Morris pounced on a goalkeeping error.

With a penalty shootout looking likely, a clearance from George Hughes found Carl Harris who ran with the ball, collided with the Malpas keeper but managed to hook the ball in for the winner. In the final, Cross Foxes will meet THE OAK who beat ATLETICO MARKET 6-2 in an incident packed game which saw both teams finish

with 10 men. Dave Hartshorn gave the Oak a first half lead, and Liam Williams made it 2-0 from the spot early in the second half.

Karl Bailey pulled one back for the Market before Mark Dutton restored the Oak's goal cushion, before the Oak then had Williams sent off for violent conduct.

Sub Nick Davies then scored for the Market but Shun Miah made it 4-2 to the Oak.

Market were then reduced to 10 men themselves following the sending off of

Liham Bailey for a second yellow card. Hartshorn and Craig Southern finished off the Market with late goals. In the league, DUDLESTON HEATH thrashed 10-man IRONWORKS 18-1. There were hat tricks for Ben Lawson, Connor Pitcher and Guy Guilford, with Craig Mapp and Lewis Alder both grabbing two. Ashley Thomas, Stuart Williams, Kenny Griffiths, Scott Penrose and Bradley Holmes also found the net, with George Turner scoring for Ironworks.

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TNS top scorer Mike Wilde slots home his first of the night in the 4-2 win against Airbus UK



Jamie Mullan in aerial combat for The New Saints



Left back Chris Marriott whose fine strike made it four

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SPORT

OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473

COBRA on the brink of getting promoted

COBRA look to complete their season's mission of promotion to division one of the North Wales rugby league when they host main rivals Llandudno on Saturday.

The Meifod men go into the clash as firm favourites, lying in second spot behind leaders Denbigh, and 14 points clear of the Seasiders who still have two games in hand.

COBRA have been impressive in the past week, hammering Llanidloes 58-14 in the second division followed by last week's 37-3 win at Rhyl to reach the final of the North Wales Plate.

"Saturday is a massive game, this is our season," said coach Matt Griffiths. "Promotion has been our aim since day one, and victory on Saturday would do it."

Centres Iwan Vaughan and Frazer Roberts both face checks on dead legs as does Lloyd Bright, but they should be fit.

COBRA have been pushing for promotion in the last couple of seasons, and Griffiths feels the time is right to step up a division.

"We now need a new challenge in a higher league," he added. "There are two or three good sides in the this league, but after that there is no-one really to push you."

"Although we still need a couple of players in key positions, the team we have got now the strongest it has been for some time."

"It is a quite young side which has been getting better year on year and the forwards in particular have been immense they are a good group of players, everyone gets on well."

COBRA will meet either Llandudno or Bala in the North Wales Plate final at Colwyn Bay on Saturday, May 18, while the second team meet Aberystwyth University in the final of the Mid Wales Cup on Saturday, April 27.

Ranking joy for young runner

YOUNG Maldwyn Harrier Joseph Crutchley's fine 2012/13 cross-country season has been recognised with a third place end-of-season ranking by running "bible" Athletics Weekly.

The North Wales cross-country champion achieved his under-13 boys ranking thanks to an excellent UK Inter Counties showing in which he finished in third place.

Ben off to a flyer as car gets new colour scheme

MID Wales driver Ben Power showed off a spectacular new colour scheme, produced by a top US designer, on the opening day of the 2013 UK National Legends Car Championship at Oulton Park in Cheshire.

Power, from Gainsfield, near Welshpool, called on American graphic artist Jamie Pfeifer to come up with a design using the distinctive red and black of sponsor Guttercrest, and in-keeping with the retro look of the car.

And on its debut, the new-look car performed well, taking third place in heat one and in the final, but getting shunted out of contention in the second race while trying to avoid an incident.

The results were especially impressive, as Power had to curtail his practice on Friday when the differential blew.

Pfeifer is himself an accomplished racing driver - based in California for many years, he now lives in Missouri and still races in historic events.

"We wanted to use red, black and white, but were strug-



Ben Power's car in its new colour scheme

gling for a way to make it work," said Power, who ended fourth in the final championship table last season - his best-ever finish in the hotly-contested series.

"Jamie was recommended to us, and did a great job. He's a professional graphic artist, but with decades of racing



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Winning start for Atherton bike pair

THERE was a tremendous start to the season for local riders Gee and Rachel Atherton who helped Team GT Factory Racing sweep the board in their opening action in the British Downhill Mountain Biking Series.

The Atherton duo, who live near Oswestry, took the honours in both the mens and womens elite in the first round of the series in youth sapping conditions at Combe Sydenham in Somerset.

The British Downhill Series (BDS) has the top 300 riders in the UK plus a sprinkling of international stars in the field.

Gee won the mens elite in two minutes, 42.049 seconds, more than two seconds ahead of runner-up Matt Simmonds (Chain Reaction Cycles) in 2:44.168. Teammate Mark Beaumont (of GT Factory Racing) was edged into third in 2:44.265.

Rachel led the way in claggy mud to win the womens elite in 3:06.029 following a courageous run, seeing off defending champion Manon Carpenter (Madison Saracen) in convincing manner by 8.2 seconds.

In the men's elite, last year's winner Beaumont missed Matt Simmonds by a mere 0.1 of a second to finish third before Gee tore down the hill to put two seconds onto everyone.

Ladies are champions

A THRILLING finish saw Welshpool Ladies Hockey Club crowned North Wales League division one champions.

Level on points with Powys rivals Newtown at the start of the day, Pool put the title firmly in their grasp with a crushing 8-0 win at Llandudno, but faced an anxious wait to discover whether Newtown could deprive them of their crowning glory on goal difference.

However, Newtown failed to score enough goals despite winning 8-1 against Rhyl.

Caroline Jones and Ceri Chapman both fired hat-tricks, with Cerys Bills and Lucy Davies also on target in their side's 12th, and most important, win of the season.

TNS GOING AFTER A POINTS RECORD

THE title race may be done and dusted, but The New Saints have been challenged to win the Welsh Premier with their biggest points margin.

The Saints wrapped up their seventh title a fortnight ago, but head coach Carl Darlington - this week named manager of the month for March - insists the Oswestry side are determined to open up as big a gap as possible at the top.

After Tuesday night's hard fought 1-0 win at Carmarthen, they are 19 points clear with two games to play - both away at Prestatyn on Saturday and Bangor City the following week.

"The biggest margin the club have won the league is 18 points, so we're still trying to better that," said Darlington. "It will be difficult, but we will be doing our utmost to win our last two games and see where it takes us. As well as playing for pride we're also playing for place in the club's record books.

"If we can finish the season well, it will set us up nicely for the Champions League in the summer."

Striker Mike Wilde, this

by John Bridgwaterr
week named the Welsh Premier's player of the month for March, added another goal to his burgeoning tally to help The New Saints to their victory at Carmarthen.

The club's 30-year-old top scorer made light of a testing surface to head home the only goal of the game 10 minutes from time, to take his league tally to 23 for the season and stay on course for the league's golden boot.

Carmarthen, the last side

to defeat TNS in the league back on November 24, made the leaders battle all the way on a bobbly surface at Richmond Park, with Paul Fowler firing wide from a good chance.

Chris Jones was off target with a couple of early efforts for the visitors, while Kai Edwards headed just over, but the state of the pitch limited chances.

However, the champions looked the more likely to make the breakthrough in the second half, with Wilde forcing keeper Stephen Cann into a superb save, and the keeper also denied a shot from Jamie Mullan at his near post, while Edwards had his shot cleared off the line by Nicky Palmer.

Wilde ended the frustration when heading in from a corner on 80 minutes, while Scott Quigley could have doubled the lead when he went through on goal late on but was denied by Cann.

Tuesday night was the fifth meeting between the sides this season, one of which came in the league cup final that Carmarthen won on penalties, while TNS beat the Old Gold 3-0 at Park Hall just a few weeks back to seal the league crown.

The club have been trying to bring in a replacement, but Llanrhaeadr's Lee Davies' possible switch was hit by a snag over international clearance.



Mike Wilde shows his defensive qualities as he heads clear from an Airbus attack
Morda boss faces Welshpool stand goalkeeping crisis firm to get point

MORDA United look to stay one step ahead in the Mercian Regional League premier division when they travel to fourth placed Telford Juniors on Saturday.

Craig Rogers men returned to the summit with last week's 3-0 win at FC Hodnet.

Their main rivals for the title are third placed AFC Ludlow who lie four points adrift of the leaders, but have a game in hand. The main headache for Rogers is the goalkeeping situation, with first choice Sam Jones out with a broken finger.

Meanwhile, Mike Booth, making his debut after a season with the reserves, scored twice as WATERLOO ROVERS eased to a 7-0 win at Newbridge to maintain their push for a top five finish.

WELSHPOOL Town again proved a hard nut to crack with another clean sheet when drawing 0-0 at Aberystwyth University in their rearranged Spar Mid Wales League division one clash.

Drawing inspiration from rubbing shoulders with football legends in their day out at the Sky Soccer Saturday last weekend, Pool took that performance forward with a resilient showing against the students on Tuesday night.

Meanwhile, Mike Booth, making his debut after a season with the reserves, scored twice as WATERLOO ROVERS eased to a 7-0 win at Newbridge to maintain their push for a top five finish.

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Cricketers try again after rain halts game

FRUSTRATED by the wet weather, Oswestry's cricketers will try again on Saturday when they head to premier division Wombleton in the first round of the Birmingham League's Graham Williamson Trophy.

The Morda Road side had acquitted themselves well with a fine bowling and fielding performance, before the encounter was curtailed at the midway point through rain.

The game will now be replayed, from scratch, at Wombleton this Saturday, with a trip to Shrewsbury awaiting the winners. There is one change for the visitors with Dean Suter returning to keep wicket.

Oswestry's third and fourth teams begin their Shropshire County League campaigns this Saturday, with the thirds visiting Wheaton Aston, and the fourths taking on Market Drayton II at Morda Road. The first team start their Birmingham League division two season with a home game against Water Orton on Saturday, April 27.



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